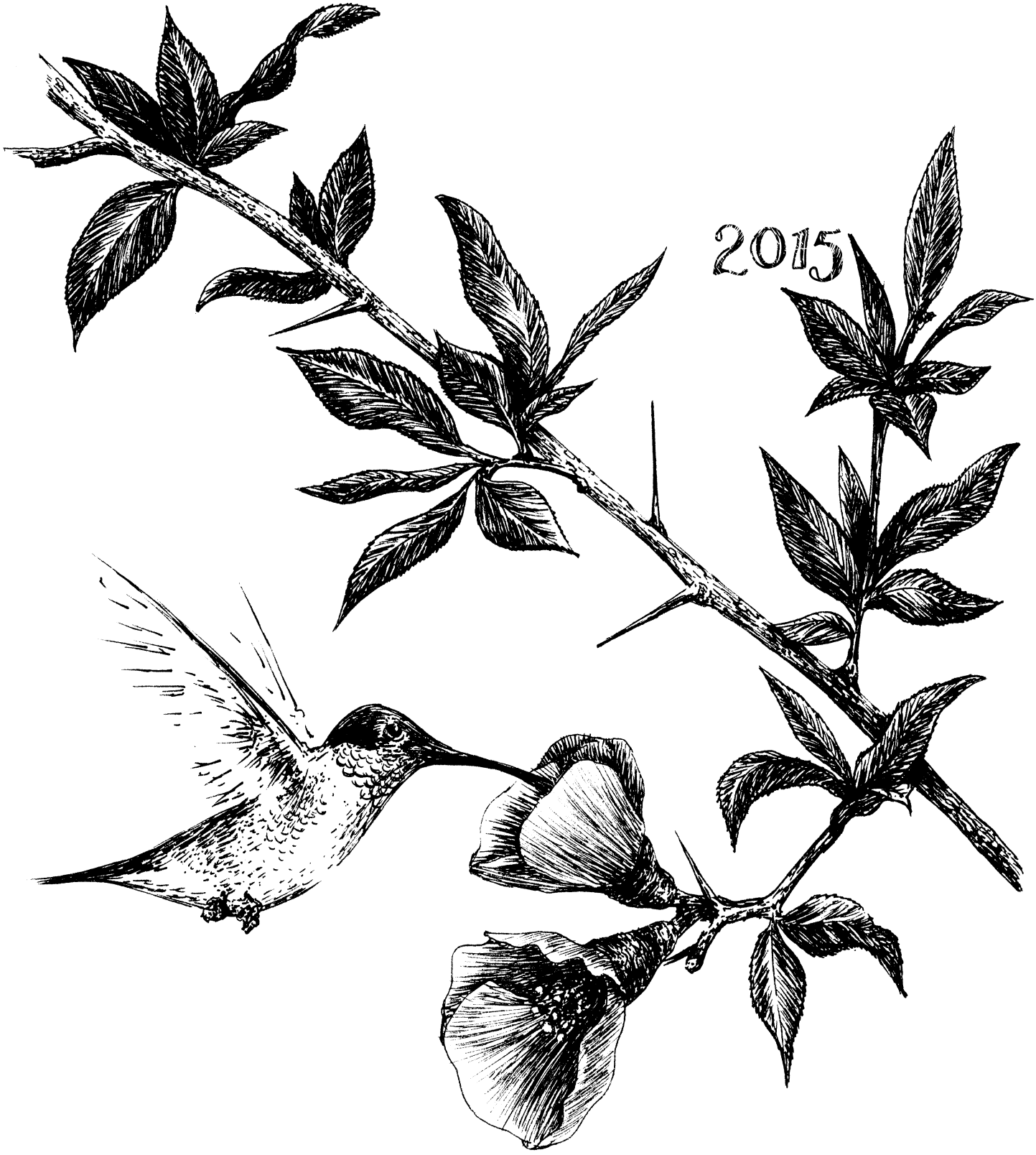


FEDCO TREES

FEDCO TREES 2015

Multifactorial Synergy

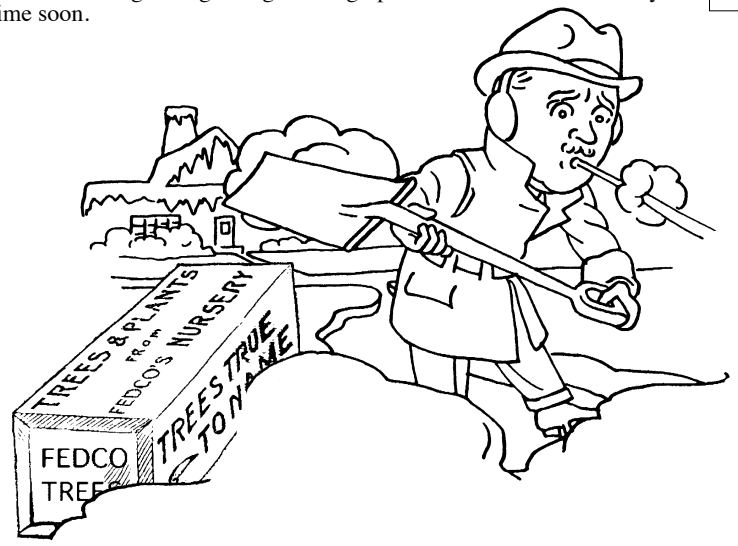
Recently, a doctor friend told me about something called multifactorial synergy. As herbalists know, you can't simply isolate one compound or another and expect the resulting extract to have the same medicinal properties as the whole herb. Plants are more complicated than that. It occurred to me that this also describes the landscape. Plants respond to the complex environment in which they find themselves. That environment includes soil, weather, the seasons, other plants nearby, pollinators, and people. It's an interwoven, interactive system. It's multifactorial synergy.

When we choose what to plant around our homes, we have an opportunity to participate in that complex system. We can cultivate the monoculture lawn and the monoculture garden and orchard if we choose. Or we can take another tack. We can plant a diversity of species. We can throw out labels like "ornamental" and think instead about interactions and collaborations. Perhaps the raspberries go next to the house and the grapes climb up the porch. Maybe the roses and sunflowers go out in the orchard near the apple trees. Maybe the peach trees grow on the side of the living room facing south. Ours love it there.

Much of the landscape we see is contrived by people. We're part of the synergy! Fortunately, plants and people love each other's company. Without us, a lot of them wouldn't be here. Without them, *none of us* would be here. One of this year's catalog features is espalier (p. 21), an extreme form of human-plant interaction. Pollen Nation (p. 33) highlights a very different kind of collaboration. Plant thoughtfully and then stand back and trust the pollinators to do their thing.

This has been the strategy in our functional orchard at home (p. 14). It's also how we're cultivating the Maine Heritage Orchard in Unity at the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA) education center. We are renovating a gravel pit, preserving hundreds of historic apple varieties and growing them as part of an incredibly diverse polyculture. When people ask us how we get apple trees to grow in an abandoned wasteland, I reply, "Multifactorial synergy."

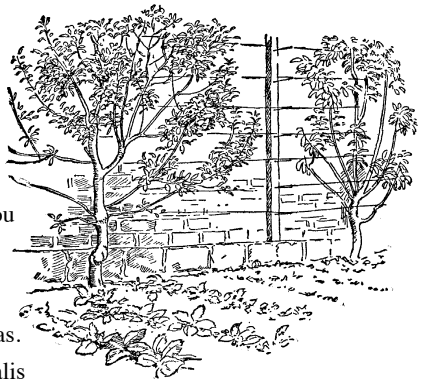
Looking back: 2013 was abnormally warm all the way to early November when it quickly became very cold. Most of the Zone 3 plants on our farm were unfazed. They naturally drop their foliage and go dormant by October. The Zone 4 and 5 plants however got caught with their pants down. They kept right on growing, soaking up the warm fall weather. Then they got walloped when the November cold snap hit. Some died back a bit. Others were killed to the ground. We won't be growing mangoes or grapefruit in central Maine any time soon.



What's new in this year's catalog? Each year we vary the selections of plants throughout the catalog. We offer most of the old favorites every year and rotate through dozens of new offerings. We're pleased to have a very **large supply of cider apples** this year, best ever. We even have enough to do wholesale orders if you're interested. We're also offering rare historic apples in cooperation with MOFGA. You can **become a MOFGA tree steward** (p. 19) by purchasing one or more of these rare trees. You can donate directly to the Maine Heritage Orchard when you check out. You'll also find an **order form for scionwood** and early shipment of rootstock here, right next to the regular order form. Please note our discount structure for large orders, our discount deadline, and the "Small & Light" shipping option for those who desire only items that don't require a giant box.

We do special orders. If you wish to buy **large quantities** of any item, larger or smaller plants than we are listing, rooted cuttings, or unusual items we're not listing, please write with particulars. Ask us about **custom grafting**: for big orcharding operations, we're ramping up this program to provide large quantities of trees at a discount.

All of our trees are guaranteed. If your tree or shrub does not grow to your satisfaction during the first growing season, please let us know! We'll send you a refund. We don't have a huge staff so if we don't respond quickly, don't hesitate to remind us; we are in business to serve you.



Please share your experiences growing plants with us. Many of our selections result from your suggestions. If you know of something growing near you that we should be offering, or if you are interested in growing for us, please write to us. We welcome your comments, suggestions, recipes, anecdotes and ideas.

John Bunker & Susan Kiralis

Our website: **fedcoseeds.com**
then click on Fedco Trees.

- **You may order online.**
- **Check product availability online.**

We also post color photos of most of our trees, shrubs and perennials and a wide range of information.

Find photos and updates on our **Fedco Trees Facebook** page.

Ordering instructions	**p. 3**
Order Forms	**center**
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contact us:
by email at questions@fedcoseeds.com
or phone 207-426-9900

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cover by Mark Kelly

We guarantee the quality of our trees and plants, and warrant that all items we offer are fully satisfactory.
If you are dissatisfied for any reason, we will replace the item or refund the purchase price.

Please inspect your order upon receipt and use the correction sheet to notify us immediately of any problems. Because good results depend upon weather, soil and cultural practices over which we have no control, we limit our liability in all instances to the purchase price. The liability of Fedco Seeds, Inc., for breach of warranty, or any loss or damages arising out of the purchase or use of our products, including loss or damages resulting from any negligence whatsoever on our part, or strict liability in tort, shall be limited to the purchase price. By acceptance of the merchandise, the buyer acknowledges that the limitations and disclaimers herein described are conditions of sale, and that they constitute the entire agreement between the parties regarding any warranty or liability. Claims for any defects in Fedco's products should be presented to Fedco as soon as possible after discovery. Failure to assert claims within 30 days after discovery renders this warranty null and void.

Ordering Information —

Order items from this catalog online or on a Trees **2015 order form**, in the center of the catalog; you may submit as many pages as you need: photocopies, forms downloaded from our website or printouts mimicking our format. To encourage you to participate in a group order and to order early, we give discounts.

New this year: order **scionwood** or rootstock for early shipment online or from the order form on page 37. More information on p. 20.

Payment: we accept check, money order, Visa, MasterCard, AmEx and Discover; payment must accompany all orders. We request that mailed orders under $25 pay by check or MO. Make your check out to Fedco. We will charge your card when we receive your order. We will bill or refund you for any adjustments as each order is completed.

- **Online**: go to **fedcoseeds.com** and click on Fedco Trees.
- **Mail** your order: **Fedco Trees, PO Box 520, Waterville, ME 04903-0520.** Keep a copy of your order for your records. To confirm receipt of your order, enclose a stamped self-addressed postcard.
- **We do not take fax or phone orders.**

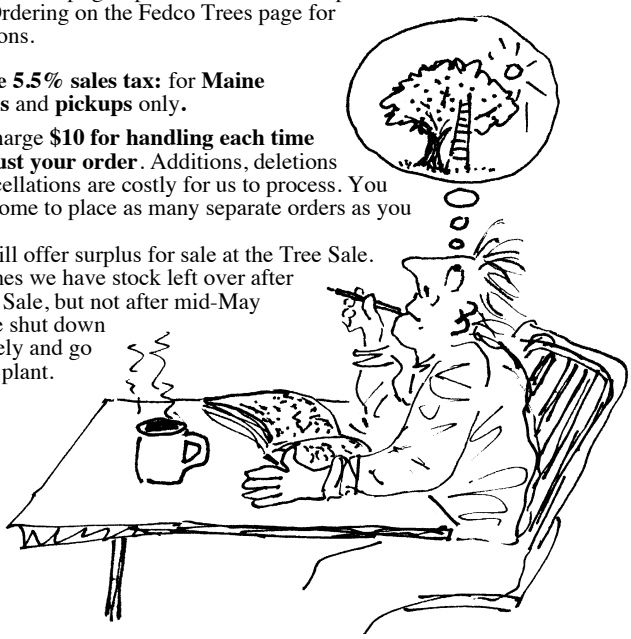
Group orders: By mail, send us at one time all your members' order forms with one payment and receive the individually packaged orders at one address. The group total earns the discount, if any. Use an additional order form for a group cover sheet. Keep a copy of each group member's order.

We also accept group orders online. Group coordinators can click on Group Ordering on the Fedco Trees page for instructions.

Maine 5.5% sales tax: for **Maine residents** and **pickups** only**.**

We charge **$10 for handling each time you adjust your order**. Additions, deletions and cancellations are costly for us to process. You are welcome to place as many separate orders as you wish.

We will offer surplus for sale at the Tree Sale. Sometimes we have stock left over after the Tree Sale, but not after mid-May when we shut down completely and go home to plant.



Our Planting Guide
is incorporated into the catalog. **Save your catalog** for planting and cultural instructions. The catalog is also available online.

Discounts & Deadlines —

Discount deadline is **Friday, January 16, 2015.** Sorry, no volume discounts on later orders. Discounts apply only to orders either picked up or shipped to one address.

over $200	10% discount
over $400	15% discount
over $1000	20% discount

We fill all orders on a first-come first-served basis.

Final order deadline is **March 6, 2015.**

Shipping —

We ship most orders **via UPS beginning around April 2**, continuing for about two weeks, according to planting zone. Our last regular shipping date is around April 17. We will have a special late shipping date around May 6. We do not ship at other times.

We strive to make our **shipping charges** fair, and it is a challenge. Since most packages we send with trees and shrubs are subject to expensive charges for oversized boxes and heavy weights, we have a category of small and light items that cost less to ship.

Regular UPS shipping charges: Shipping is a percentage of your adjusted total with the following minimums:

area	minimum	rate
Continental US	$20	15% over $134

Shipments to Alaska go via USPS Priority Mail:

Alaska	$25	20% over $125

Please include a postal address. This rate also applies to anyone in the lower 48 who *requires* postal delivery.

Small & Light shipping: If you order **only** items with stock numbers beginning with L: perennials, bulbs, strawberries, rhubarb, hops, asparagus, scionwood, and more.

S&L to all states	$10	15% over $67

If you order **any** other items in addition to these, you **must** pay the regular shipping charges.

If you require a specific ship date during our regular shipping time, **we charge an additional $15** to cover our extra handling costs. If you opt for **late shipment** around May 6, the handling **charge is $25**.

Pickup —

Pick up your order during our annual Tree Sale at our Hinckley Road warehouse in Clinton, Maine. Friday and Saturday, May 1–2, are reserved for preorder customers. The second Friday and Saturday, May 8–9, we are open to the public, and orders are still available for pickup. **Sale hours are 9:00–3:00** each day. We will send you a pickup reminder and map in April.

Substitutions —

When dealing with live plants, we can never be certain that we can fill your order. If something becomes unavailable, our default mode is to substitute a similar variety because most people prefer a similar tree or plant to a refund. On the order form, if you indicate you don't want any substitutions, we'll send a refund.

If you order apples, please indicate whether you will accept the varieties on similar rootstocks.

Our Variety Descriptions –

All trees and plants are bare-rooted (except where noted), and even a large order can fit into a station wagon. All fruit and nut trees are well-rooted, 1/4–7/8" in diameter.

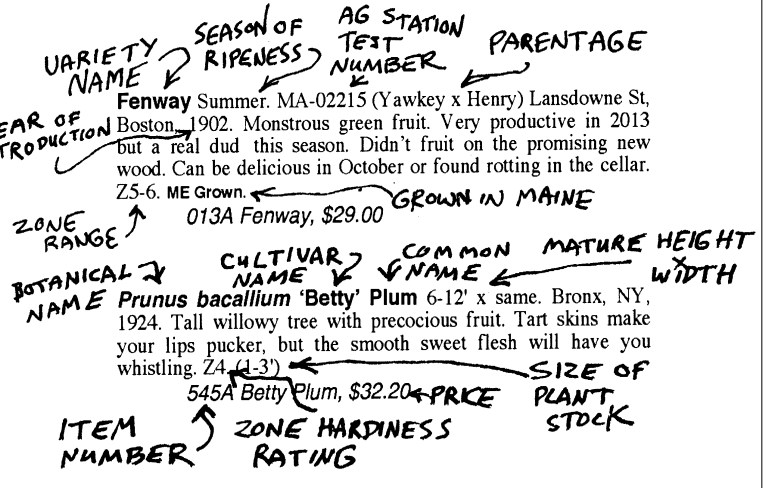
For fruit trees and berries, the **exact dates of peak ripeness** will vary from place to place.

The **zone hardiness rating** will aid you in determining whether a plant will be hardy for you. The average minimum temperature in your area determines your zone (chart on p. 71). Apple descriptions have minimum and maximum zones because apples typically need cold climates to produce the best fruit. All other plants list the coldest hardiness zone. Your own soil conditions, microclimate and topography will be equally important in determining the best varieties for you.

Please note **pollination requirements** for fruits, nuts and berries. Some plants are self-pollinating, others require a second plant for pollination, and others require a second variety.

We strive to give you accurate information about all the plants we sell. If you notice inaccuracies, please let us know.

John Bunker, Lauren Cormier and Jen Ries write tree and shrub descriptions. Laura Childs writes perennial and bulb descriptions. Elisabeth Benjamin and Susan Kiralis edit.


VARIETY NAME
SEASON OF RIPENESS
AG STATION TEST NUMBER
PARENTAGE
YEAR OF INTRODUCTION
GROWN IN MAINE
ZONE RANGE
BOTANICAL NAME
CULTIVAR NAME
COMMON NAME
MATURE HEIGHT
WIDTH
SIZE OF PLANT
STOCK
PRICE
ITEM NUMBER
ZONE HARDINESS RATING
Fenway Summer. MA-02215 (Yawkey x Henry) Lansdowne St, Boston, 1902. Monstrous green fruit. Very productive in 2013 but a real dud this season. Didn't fruit on the promising new wood. Can be delicious in October or found rotting in the cellar. Z5-6. ME Grown.
013A Fenway, $29.00
Prunus bacallium 'Betty' Plum 6-12' x same. Bronx, NY, 1924. Tall willowy tree with precocious fruit. Tart skins make your lips pucker, but the smooth sweet flesh will have you whistling. Z4 (1-3')
545A Betty Plum, $32.20

When you get your order: Immediate Care

When your new trees and plants arrive, they are breaking dormancy and need to be planted as soon as possible. Don't be deterred by snow. If you can dig a shovel into the ground, plant your trees. If you wait until spring is in full swing, your plants will be stressed and have a hard time recovering. Sometimes frozen ground makes immediate planting impossible. When this is the case, follow the instructions below and all will be well. **Why do we send plants even when there is snow on the ground?** The weather may be fickle but we must be steady. We are dealing with bare-root trees that have to be moved out of storage and sent to their new homes in early spring. For our system to work, we must follow a tight shipping schedule regardless of regional weather conditions. We begin shipping around April 2 and finish around April 17, sending orders by climate zones, warmer zones first.

DO NOT ALLOW ROOTS TO DRY OUT AT ALL!!!

Trees & Shrubs: Planting Within 48 Hours

Leave the plastic wrapping around the root ball. Add some water to remoisten the packing material and store your trees/plants in a cool shaded place like a shed, barn or cellar. Avoid heat and sunlight.

Trees & Shrubs: If You Cannot Plant Within 48 Hours

You may keep plants for a week or two by following one of two temporary measures and continuing to water trees as they need it.

1) Open your package and inspect for damage. If roots or packing material are dry, water them. Re-wrap the plastic bag around the root ball, packing firmly to eliminate air pockets. Keep roots moist but do not allow puddles to form in the packaging. Keep the trees in a cool dark area, protected from the sun and freezing temperatures.

2) "Heel in" your plants in a protected spot that isn't sunny or warm. You don't want the plants to break dormancy. Dig a trench or turn back an appropriate amount of earth and bury the roots; tamp firmly to remove air pockets. Water thoroughly. Plant in permanent location as soon as possible.

Asparagus

Open up asparagus roots and store dry and uncovered in a cool shaded place.

Strawberries

Refrigerate strawberry plants until you are ready to plant them.

Perennials

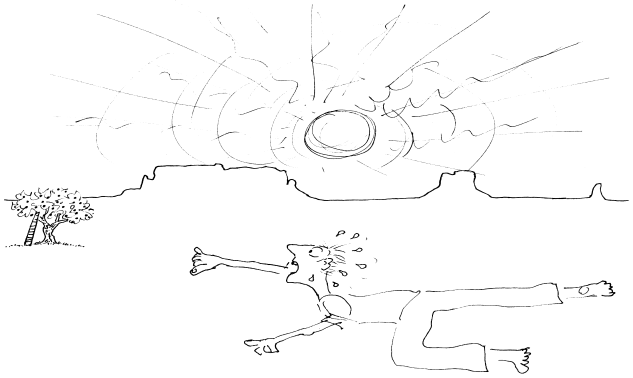
Open bags and check the stock immediately. Roots and crowns should be firm and pliable, not squishy or brittle. If they are slightly dry, add a little water, or, if they are going to be potted up soon, soak the roots. Generally, a little surface mold is harmless and will not affect the plant's future performance. Pot up crowns and roots; **do not plant directly outdoors**. If you cannot pot the crowns up immediately, store them in a cool (35–40˚) location for a short time. See page 68 for details.

Sweating Nursery Stock

Some trees and shrubs become extremely dormant during refrigerated storage. These include: Amelanchier (juneberry), Betula (birch), Cercis (redbud), Crataegus (hawthorn) and Quercus (oak).

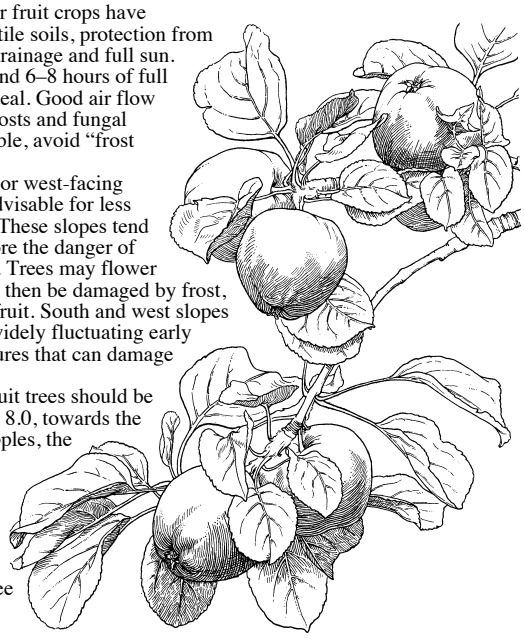
Sweating nursery stock ensures breaking of dormancy. The easiest way to force any tree to break bud is to pot it and set it in a greenhouse or polyhouse. After the tree begins to leaf out, transplant it outdoors. If you don't have a greenhouse, lay the trees in a shady place, 45–70˚, such as a garage, basement, barn, greenhouse or outdoors in the shade. Cover the whole plant with very damp packing material (hay, newspaper, etc.) followed by a sheet of plastic. Sweating will take several days; check the buds every day. The trees are ready to plant when the buds begin to swell.

Warm May weather will give the best results. Until then, heel your trees in, or store them with roots covered in a cool barn or garage.



TREE PLANTING AND CARE

Choosing a Site for Fruit Trees and Berries



The best sites for fruit crops have well-drained fertile soils, protection from wind, good air drainage and full sun. A gentle slope and 6–8 hours of full sun per day is ideal. Good air flow will moderate frosts and fungal disease. If possible, avoid "frost pockets."

Sunny south- or west-facing slopes are not advisable for less hardy varieties. These slopes tend to warm up before the danger of frost has passed. Trees may flower prematurely and then be damaged by frost, causing loss of fruit. South and west slopes may also have widely fluctuating early spring temperatures that can damage less hardy trees.

Soil pH for fruit trees should be between 5.5 and 8.0, towards the lower end for apples, the higher end for peaches, and in the middle for others. Fruit species have optimal space requirements. See chart below.

Do not plant trees where power lines will interfere with them.

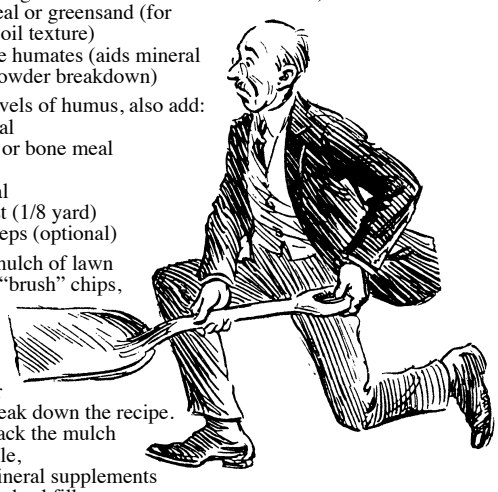
Fall Preparation or Spring Initial Feeding for Fruit Trees

If you're interested in preparing locations for your trees this fall, or for feeding newly planted fruit trees, the following amendment recipe should address most sites in the eastern U.S., which tend to be acidic and moderate to low in calcium and phosphorus. You can apply this mix as a mulch to your newly planted tree in the spring. To order any of these products, refer to the Organic Growers Supply section of our Seed catalog or website.

Deluxe Method

Without digging the hole, cover an area 4–6' in diameter with:

- 5 lbs gypsum or Hi-Cal lime
- 5 lbs colloidal phosphate (short-term calcium and phosphorus)
- 5 lbs azomite (long-term minerals and trace minerals)
- 5 lbs granite meal or greensand (for improved soil texture)
- 2–3 lbs menefee humates (aids mineral and rock-powder breakdown)



For building high levels of humus, also add:

- 2 lbs alfalfa meal
- 2 lbs bone char or bone meal
- 2 lbs kelp meal
- 2 lbs blood meal
- 100 lbs compost (1/8 yard)
- BioDynamic preps (optional)

Cover with a 3–4" mulch of lawn clippings, leaves or "brush" chips, which will smother the sod, conserve moisture, prevent leaching and provide a habitat for soil organisms to break down the recipe. In the spring, pull back the mulch and dig your tree hole, incorporating the mineral supplements and compost into the backfill.

Simpler Method

Forgo the soil amendments and simply pile 1–2 wheelbarrow loads of compost on each planting-hole site. If you live by the ocean, add a couple of wheelbarrows of seaweed. Then cover with mulch. In the spring, pull back the mulch and plant your fruit tree, incorporating the compost into the hole as you dig.

Feeding older fruit trees

Cover the surface of the ground out to the drip line with the same materials listed above. For larger trees (five years and older) increase the mineral amount to 10–15 lbs each. For ancient trees you can use up to 25 lbs of each mineral in a ring beneath the drip line. Mulch as described above.

The basics of tree care outlined here are meant to get you going. Obviously, we can't tell you everything you need to know in a few pages. Some specific information, like location or soil preferences of particular plants, is in the item descriptions. A soil test is useful in determining the specific needs of your site. Reading, observation, trial and error, and talking with other growers and with extension agents can expand your knowledge of trees and shrubs.

Consult the Fedco Seeds catalog's book list for recommended reference books, or look for information online, including useful links at our website, fedcoseeds.com.

General Planting Directions for Trees and Shrubs

• Dig a large hole, at least twice as wide and about as deep as the root system. Most roots grow laterally and need plenty of room to spread out. Your trees will benefit if the hole is at least 3' wide.

• Loosen up the soil at the bottom of the hole and especially around the sides. For fruit trees, if you haven't used a deluxe fall preparation, you may add a 3-lb bag of our planting mix (available from the Organic Growers Supply section of the Fedco Seeds catalog), or well-aged compost and mineral fertilizers like rock phosphate or azomite, but *not* manure or other nitrogen sources.

• Replace the topsoil around the roots where it will do the most good.

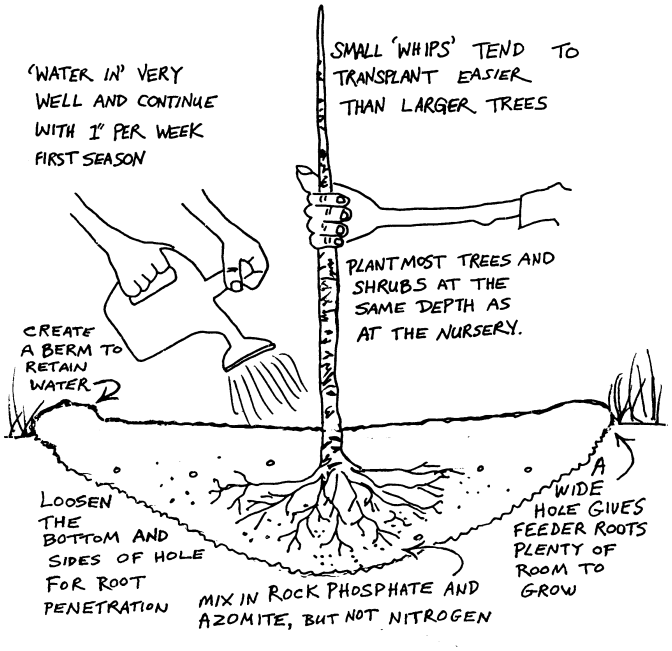
If you situate non-fruit trees according to their requirements, there is no need to add any supplements to your soil. This is the best way to ensure that your plants will thrive for many years.

For best results, plant on cool cloudy days in the early morning or late afternoon. Soak deciduous trees and shrubs for up to 24 hours before planting. Keep the roots from drying out; even a few minutes in the sun and breeze can kill a tree or shrub. Keep them in a bucket of water as you plant.

Generally, you should plant trees and shrubs at the same depth that they grew in the nursery. You should be able to see a "dirt line" or a change in bark color indicating nursery depth. Spread the roots out as you set the trees in the holes. Make a mound at the bottom of the hole over which to spread the roots. Give your trees plenty of water to "puddle in" as you plant. Wiggle the trunk as the water seeps in to ensure that the roots are settled in with no air pockets. Leave a berm around each tree so water will seep in and not run off. Keep them well watered throughout the first summer. They require the equivalent of 1–2" rain per week. A good soaking is effective; sprinkling is not.

Initial Pruning at Planting Time

Prune dead or injured branches and roots on all trees and shrubs. Further pruning of most trees is not necessary at planting time. Do not prune tops or prune or bend tap roots of nut trees. General information on pruning on pp. 42 and 48. Conifers (p. 49), roses (p. 53) and lilacs (p. 56) benefit from special pruning.

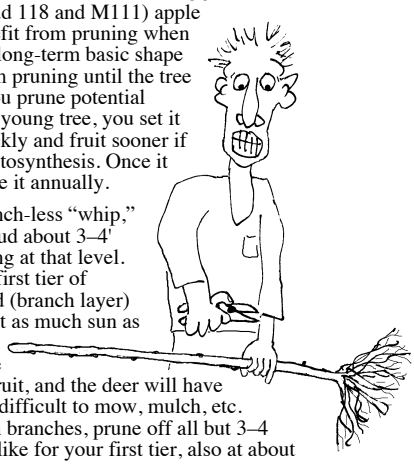

'WATER IN' VERY WELL AND CONTINUE WITH 1" PER WEEK FIRST SEASON
SMALL 'WHIPS' TEND TO TRANSPLANT EASIER THAN LARGER TREES
PLANT MOST TREES AND SHRUBS AT THE SAME DEPTH AS AT THE NURSERY.
CREATE A BERM TO RETAIN WATER
LOOSEN THE BOTTOM AND SIDES OF HOLE FOR ROOT PENETRATION
MIX IN ROCK PHOSPHATE AND AZOMITE, BUT NOT NITROGEN
A WIDE HOLE GIVES FEEDER ROOTS PLENTY OF ROOM TO GROW

Pruning Fruit Trees

Avoid pruning young trees except to establish a basic shape, as it delays bearing. On apple and pear trees, leave the central leader alone and let it grow. It's okay to cut off extra trunks and large branches. Always remove suckers or root shoots from fruit trees. On peaches and plums, the trees may want to develop 2–4 leaders, or an open-vase shape. Always prune just above a good strong bud that faces a direction you'd like your plant to grow.

Pruning your new standard or semi-dwarf apple tree

Standard and semi-dwarf (Bud 118 and M111) apple trees will almost always benefit from pruning when first planted, to establish the long-term basic shape for the tree. Then refrain from pruning until the tree begins to fruit. Every time you prune potential leaf-bearing branches from a young tree, you set it back. The tree will grow quickly and fruit sooner if you allow it to maximize photosynthesis. Once it begins to fruit, then you prune it annually.



Year one: If the tree is a branch-less "whip," cut the top back to a strong bud about 3–4' high. This will force branching at that level. This will eventually be your first tier of branches. The lowest scaffold (branch layer) should be very wide to collect as much sun as possible. If too low, these long branches will rest on the ground under the weight of fruit, and the deer will have a field day. Also, it becomes difficult to mow, mulch, etc.

If the new tree arrives with branches, prune off all but 3–4 branches at the height you'd like for your first tier, also at about 3–4', or higher if you prefer.

Year two: Trim off root suckers or other odd branches that come up from around the base. Otherwise, leave the tree be and let it grow.

The next few years: If something looks really crowded, broken or dead, prune it. Otherwise, leave your tree alone and let it grow. If you don't fuss over it too much, you'll get fruit sooner!

Spacing of Fruit Trees, Nut Trees & Berries

	between plants	between rows
Apples, Dwarf	7-8'	15'
Apples, Semi-dwarf	15'	15'
Apples, Standard	25–30'	25–30'
Asparagus	1–2'	4'
Blackberries	3–4'	6–12'
Blueberries, highbush	3–6'	8–10'
Blueberries, lowbush	1'	1'
Grapes	8'	8–10'
Hazel	4-6'	hedge
Kiwis	10'	10'
Nut trees - orchard	35'	35'
Nut trees - forest	20'	20'
Pears, Asian Pears	20'	20'
Raspberries	2'	6–12'
Stone Fruit	15–20'	15–20'
Strawberries	see instructions, p. 30	
Sweet Cherries	25'	25'

Once your fruit tree begins to bear you will want to prune annually. Good pruning brings sunlight to all parts of your tree. Maximum sunlight encourages more and higher-quality fruit. Sunlight also encourages fruit buds to form for next year's crop. A well-pruned tree will produce larger fruit and will tend toward more annual bearing. Good pruning discourages fungal diseases and promotes greater spray penetration. There's an old saying that a bird should be able to fly through your fruit tree.

Most pruning should be done in late winter or early spring. We recommend a good-quality pair of hand shears and a lightweight pruning saw. You may also wish to invest in long-handled loppers, a pole pruner or a pole saw. Keep your pruning tools sharp for smooth, clean cuts.

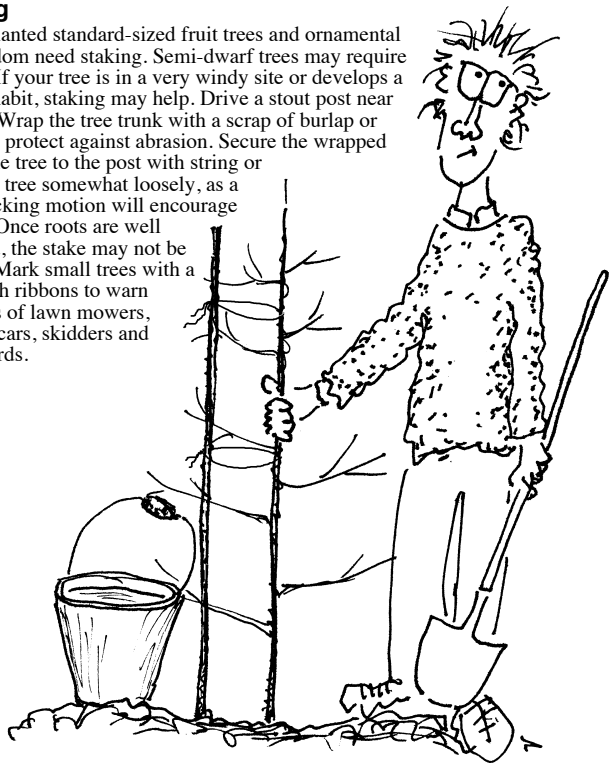
Any good book on growing fruit trees will have the information you need. Consult old and new books as well as orcharding articles and develop a system that works for you. Pruning is not difficult and will make a huge difference.

Mulch

Keep weeds and especially grass away from new trees and shrubs. Apply a 2–4" mulch of composted material, leaves, wood chips or hay out as far as the drip line. A 1/2–1" topdressing of alfalfa meal beneath the mulch may substantially reduce transplant shock. Keep mulch back several inches from the tree trunk. We lay down cardboard or newspaper and spread mulch on top of it. Mulch encourages earthworms, holds moisture, keeps down weeds, insulates against excess heat and cold, aerates and loosens soils, builds humus and fertilizes feeder roots, 90% of which are within 6" of the surface.

Staking

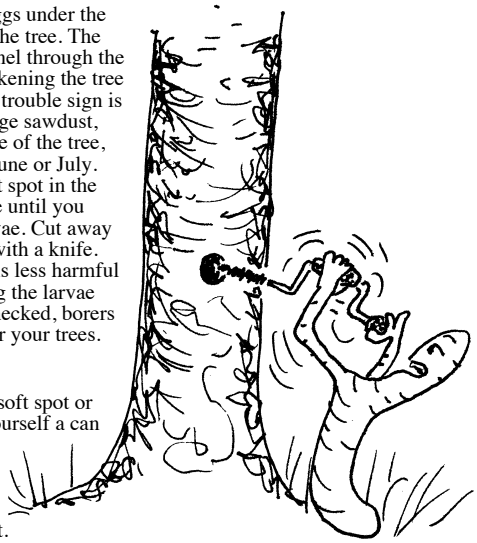
Newly planted standard-sized fruit trees and ornamental trees seldom need staking. Semi-dwarf trees may require staking. If your tree is in a very windy site or develops a leaning habit, staking may help. Drive a stout post near the tree. Wrap the tree trunk with a scrap of burlap or rubber to protect against abrasion. Secure the wrapped part of the tree to the post with string or wire. Tie tree somewhat loosely, as a slight rocking motion will encourage rooting. Once roots are well anchored, the stake may not be needed. Mark small trees with a stake with ribbons to warn operators of lawn mowers, tractors, cars, skidders and skateboards.



Beware the Apple Borer!

In many parts of central and northern New England the roundheaded appletree borer, *Saperda candida*, is **the number one enemy** of young **apple**, **crabapple** and **quince** trees. If you are growing young apple trees in these locations, you *must* protect your trees from this pest. Farther south and north the borer may not be a pest. If you don't know if they are a problem in your area, check with any grower near you: they'll know. Otherwise, err on the side of caution. The borer does not endanger other fruit trees or ornamentals.

Borer beetles lay eggs under the bark near the base of the tree. The developing larvae tunnel through the wood, eventually weakening the tree until it falls over. The trouble sign is small deposits of orange sawdust, called frass, at the base of the tree, usually appearing in June or July. Locate the hole or soft spot in the trunk and insert a wire until you locate and kill the larvae. Cut away soft, spongy pockets with a knife. Even serious carving is less harmful to the tree than leaving the larvae alive inside. Left unchecked, borers usually mean death for your trees.



Blasted Borers

When you discover a soft spot or hole in the tree, get yourself a can of compressed air (for cleaning computers). Put the long skinny tube nozzle up to the hole and give it a blast. Should do the trick.

The Polyculture Deterrent

Borer beetles thrive in shady moist warm environments. Keep grass back at least 6" from the tree base. Trials in our "functional" orchard (see page 14) suggest that a mixed polyculture environment may disguise the apple trees and fool the borers. We plant woody and herbaceous perennials around the trees, keeping them back 12" or so. Borers are lazy opportunists. If there are a lot of apple trees within easy reach, they will attack. Otherwise, you may never see them. The polyculture orchard may present too much work for them. So far, we've been able to keep this orchard clear of borers with no painting. (See below.)

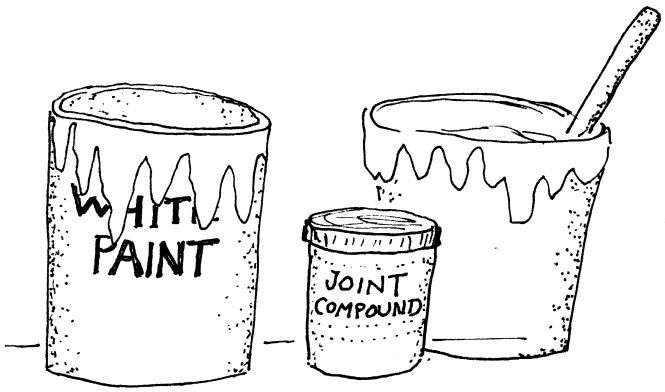
Paint the trunks

Painting is likely the best deterrent. I've tried a number of recipes and this is my favorite. It's easy and requires no hard-to-find ingredients. Mix white *interior* latex paint with joint compound. (The stuff you smear on sheet rock joints and nail holes—you can buy a small tub at any hardware store. Some exterior paint formulations contain ingredients that can harm the underlying phloem.) The consistency should be thick but still quite easy to paint, not glob on. Repaint as needed. This mix will help deter borers and also make detection of infestations easier. Look for the frass!

We are experimenting with a borer-protection formula using more benign ingredients. It doesn't last or adhere as well as the paint-joint compound mixture, but it appears to work fairly well.

2 qt quick lime
4 gal milk
1 gal boiled linseed oil

Mix well. Thicken as needed with clay or Surround (available in the Organic Growers Supply section of the Fedco Seeds catalog). Apply with a paint brush. Reapply as needed.

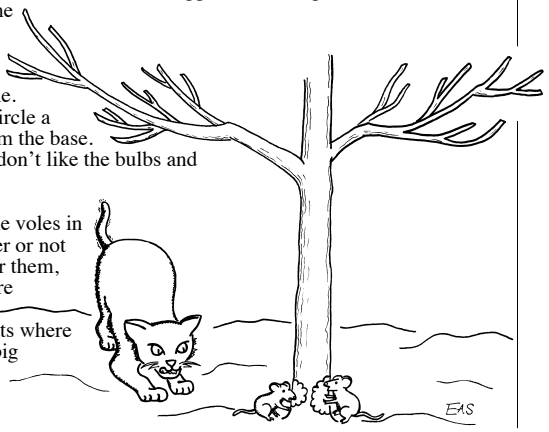


Protecting Trees from Mice and Voles

Fruit trees and ornamentals are sometimes girdled by mice or voles eating the bark. Girdling will usually kill the tree or shrub. The danger is greatest in winter. Keep the grass mowed in the fall and remove large mulch piles from near the trunks. Rodents like to nest in hay more than in chip mulches. A wrap of window screening or a plastic spiral tree guard will protect your tree from being girdled. If you use screening or plastic spiral tree guards on apple, quince or crabapple trees, remove them from April to October, as they attract borers if left on the tree in the summer. You can leave plastic spiral tree guards on most other trees year-round.

Our trials show that a mulch of wood chips surrounding young trees greatly reduces the chance of summer vole damage. Tall grasses invite them in. The polyculture model may provide cover for the voles and can result in summer vole damage. Keep the tall perennials back about 12" from the tree. Make your orchard hawk friendly.

Voles Don't Like Narcissus! For many years we've been planting daffodils around the base of some of our apple trees. No particular reason; it just looks great. Come to find out that you can beautify your orchard and deter voles at the same time. Plant daffodils in a circle a foot or two away from the base. The tunneling voles don't like the bulbs and will veer away. We don't have the super-destructive pine voles in our orchard—whether or not the bulbs would deter them, we don't know. We're continuing our trials in Massachusetts where the pine voles are a big problem.

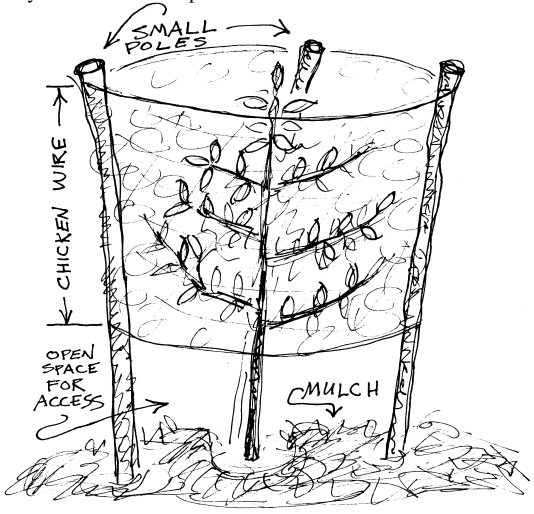


Oh Dear, Deer!

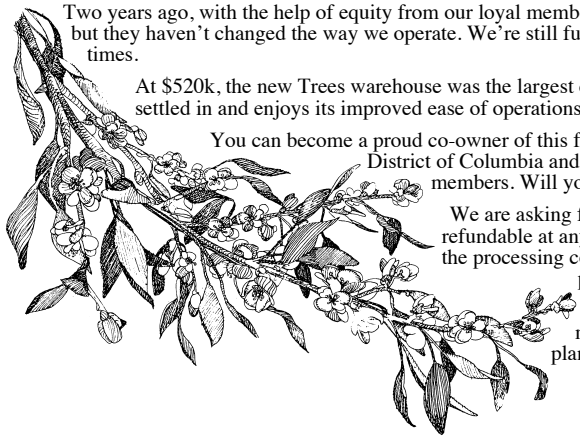
The best deer protection is a collie in the yard. If you don't have a dog or if your orchard is too far from the house, an 8' sheep fence will work. Some people have good luck with electric fences. Small protective fence enclosures can be made by circling your tree with a cylinder of chicken wire or other fencing.

Aphids and ants

Aphids can do a lot of damage to apple trees and they make the young leaves look gross. Whenever you see aphids you will see ants climbing up and down the tree feeding them. Here's an easy solution. Wrap a piece of stiff paper about 6" wide around the trunk about a foot or two off the ground. Tape this "sleeve" to itself but not to the tree. Smear Tanglefoot on the paper. Ants will not cross the barrier and, without the ants, the aphids will die. In a day or two no more aphids.



Join Fedco as a Consumer Member-Owner!



Two years ago, with the help of equity from our loyal members, we moved our office to our new Trees warehouse in Clinton. We all love our new digs, but they haven't changed the way we operate. We're still funky, hard-working, and a little chaotic, especially around catalog-deadline and peak-order times.

At $520k, the new Trees warehouse was the largest capital investment in our history. After three years in the new facility our Trees division has settled in and enjoys its improved ease of operations and enhanced retail opportunities.

You can become a proud co-owner of this fine facility. Last year, our cadre of consumer-members grew to 836 folks from 37 states, the District of Columbia and even two Canadian provinces. We are now just 164 shy of our short-term goal of 1,000 members. Will you be one of those?

We are asking for $100 membership equity or, if this would prove a hardship, there is a $25 option, refundable at any time upon request. (If you pay by credit card we will charge your card $105 or $27 to cover the processing costs.) Please note that membership is by household (only one membership per household, please) or by farm or organization.

We can't claim we will change the world. But each tree we plant, each seed we plant, makes it a little greener, sequesters a little carbon, enhances diversity, and supports other plants and animals. Together we can make the planet a little healthier.

–CR Lawn, President, Fedco Seeds Inc.

Why Join Fedco as a Member?

- Membership = ownership. Own a piece of Fedco!
- Your membership equity helps finance our new facility, reducing our interest expense.
- Enjoy benefits such as a 1% discount on all your orders, and member-only specials!
- Happy with our products, prices and catalogs? Help us to endure and thrive for many years to come! Keep that humor, those bad puns and occasional rants coming!
- Support our politics around food policy and seed issues? Help us fulfill our mission!

If you have any questions please email us at questions@fedcoseeds.com or call 207-426-9900.

Yes, I want to join Fedco as a consumer member-owner!

Enclosed is a check for my refundable membership deposit of $100.
Please make membership certificate out to:

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ St_____ Zip_____

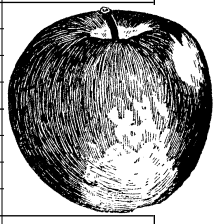
Customer # (if you know it)_____

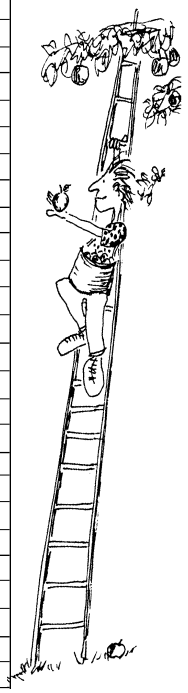
Email address_____

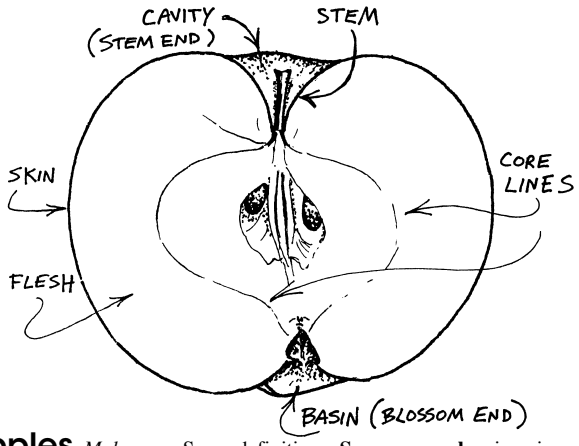
PO Box 520, Waterville ME 04903

Choose the right apple!

Item	Name	Season	All-Purpose	Fresh Eating	Storage	Cooking	Pies	High Flavor	Hard Cider: Bittersharp/ Sharp	Hard Cider: Bittersweet/ Sweet
101	Alexander	fall	●	●		●	●			
102	Ashmead's Kernel	winter		●	●			●	sharp	
104	Baldwin	winter	●	●	●	●	●		sharp	
105	Black Oxford	winter	●	●	●	●	●			
106	Blue Pearmain	winter	●	●	●	●				
110	Calville Blanc d'Hiver	fall	●	●	●	●	●		sharp	
111	Canadian Strawberry	fall		●				●		
112	Champlain	summer	●	●		●				
114	Chestnut	fall		●		●		●		
115	Chisel Jersey	fall								bittersweet
116	Cortland	fall	●	●		●	●		sharp	
118	Cox's Orange Pippin	fall		●				●		
119	Dabinett	fall								bittersweet
121	Duchess of Oldenburg	summer	●	●		●	●			
122	Ellis Bitter	fall								bittersweet
123	Esopus Spitzenburg	winter	●	●	●	●		●	sharp	
124	Fall Jenneting	fall	●	●		●				
125	Fameuse	fall	●	●		●		●		
127	Frostbite	fall		●				●		
130	Golden Russet	winter		●	●			●	sharp	
131	GoldRush	winter		●	●			●	sharp	
132	Gravenstein	summer	●	●		●	●			
133	Gray Pearmain	fall	●	●	●			●		
134	Grimes Golden	fall	●	●	●	●			sharp	
135	Harrison	fall							sharp	
137	Harry Masters Jersey	fall								bittersweet
138	Honeycrisp	winter		●	●			●		
142	Hudson's Golden Gem	fall		●	●			●		
144	Jonathan	fall	●	●	●	●	●			
145	Keepsake	winter	●	●	●	●				
146	King David	fall	●	●	●	●	●	●		
147	King of Tompkins County	fall		●				●		
148	Kingston Black	fall							bittersharp	
150	Liberty	fall	●	●		●				
152	Macoun	fall		●				●		
153	Maiden Blush	fall	●			●	●			
156	McIntosh	fall	●	●		●				
158	Michelin	fall								bittersweet
160	Milton	summer	●	●		●	●			
161	Monroe Sweet	fall	●			●				sweet
162	Munson	fall	●			●				sweet
163	Narragansett	fall	●	●		●				
164	New Brunswicker	fall	●	●		●	●			
165	Northern Spy	winter	●	●	●	●	●	●	sharp	
166	Old Pierre	fall		●		●			sharp	
167	Peach of Montreal	summer	●	●		●	●			
169	Pomme Grise	winter		●				●		
172	Pumpkin Sweet Mt Vernon	fall				●				sweet
174	Redfield	fall				●	●		sharp	
177	Ribston Pippin	fall	●	●	●	●		●	sharp	
178	Rome	winter			●	●				
179	Roxbury Russet	winter	●	●	●			●	sharp	
185	Stowe	winter	●		●					
186	Sweet Sixteen	fall		●	●			●		
188	Turley Winesap	fall	●	●		●	●			
190	Wagener	winter	●		●	●	●			
191	Wealthy	fall	●	●		●	●			
192	Whitney Crab	fall		●				●		
193	Whitney's Russet King	fall		●				●		
194	Wickson	fall		●				●	sharp	
196	Williams Pride	summer		●		●				
197	Winekist	summer	●	●				●	sharp	
198	Winthrop Greening	fall	●	●		●	●			
200	Wolf River	fall				●	●			
202	Yarlington Mill	fall								bittersweet
204	Yellow Bellflower	winter	●	●	●	●	●			
206	Zestar	summer		●				●		







Apples *Malus spp*. Some definitions: **Summer apples** ripen in summer, are generally crisp only for a short period, do not store well, and are often best for cooking. **Fall apples** store longer and are useful for a wide variety of purposes. **Winter apples** ripen mid to late fall, store well, and reach their best flavor after weeks, or even months, of storage. **Dessert apples** are delicious eaten raw. **Cider apples** are especially suited to making fermented "hard" cider. Some cider apples are also good dessert fruit, but most are not. See the cider sidebar on page 11 and the apple chart on the facing page for more information. **Subacid** means tart! **Russet** or **russeting** is a skin texture (fairly common on apple varieties and on a few pears and potatoes) which looks and feels somewhat like suede. **Bloom** is a naturally occurring dust-like yeast film on the skin of some varieties of apples, plums, grapes and blueberries.

Each apple variety has a **climate range** where it will thrive and produce its best fruit. At the end of each apple description we list a range of zones. For example, Z3-4 signifies that this apple will reach perfection in Zones 3 and 4 and that we don't recommend it farther south even though it would be plenty hardy. Z4-6 means that this apple will reach perfection in Zones 4, 5 or 6. Although we have received reports from southern California that some of our rarest Maine apples are thriving in Zone 10A, we still suggest that you use this guide to select apples most appropriate to your area.

Choosing a variety: not every variety is right for you. **All-purpose** apples are just that—they're good for a bunch of jobs. If I were planting just one tree, I'd start there. However, if you're a history buff, consider the historical varieties and maybe plant one that originated nearby. If you don't eat many apples but love pies, go for the pie apples. If you're a dessert connoisseur, skip all the others and go for the highly flavored dessert varieties. Some are strictly for cider. Some are great to put out at the camp for summer use. Some are perfect for those who want fall fruit but don't have winter storage facilities. Others keep all winter and into the following summer. Read the descriptions and consult the chart. If you have a question about a specific variety, drop me an email: john@fedcoseeds.com. I'll try to help!

Rootstocks: This year we will once again offer most of our apples on standard Antonovka seedling rootstock. We also offer several varieties on semi-dwarf rootstocks. See next column for more information about these "size-controlling" rootstocks and a list of available semi-dwarfs. Variety descriptions follow, beginning page 10.

Some people wonder why we have offered trees almost exclusively on standard (full-sized) rootstock over the years. Standard trees have deep, substantial—and therefore hardier—root systems. Last winter in central Maine the apples on standard rootstock survived far better than those on semi-dwarf or dwarf rootstock. By selecting the varieties appropriate to your district, grafted on standard rootstock, you may well be planting a tree that will be picked by your grandchildren's grandchildren. Standard trees will grow to be large, but you can keep them trimmed. Our largest trees are now about 30 years old, yet the tallest are well under 20'.

Although standard-sized apple trees may be planted as close as 10–15' apart, they were typically planted 30' apart in 19th-century orchards. We generally plant standard trees 20–25' apart with good results.

Apple trees are adaptable to a variety of soils and climates, though they prefer well-drained fertile soil. See pages 4–5 for information on soil preparation and planting. Varieties bearing annually are noted; others normally bear every other year. With diligent annual pruning and thinning, most apples will produce an annual crop, one heavy, the next light.

All apple trees require a second variety for pollination, but any apple or crabapple blooming at the same time, within a quarter mile, will probably do. (Stock is 3-6' trees except where noted.)

Semi-dwarf Apples

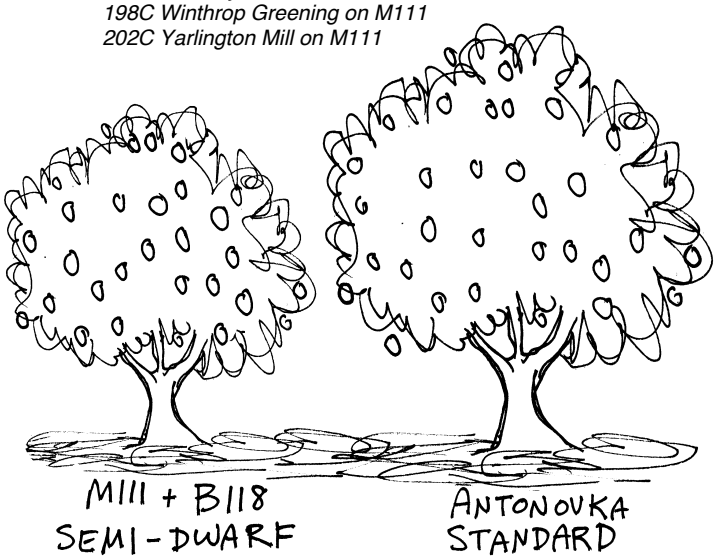
After an enthusiastic response from customers the past few years, we continue to offer an assortment of semi-dwarf apples on M111 and Bud 118 rootstocks. Each has great advantages for some growers, but beware! These rootstocks also have their limitations. Please read on and decide if they are what you want. If you are uncertain, stick with the good old standards. Trees on Antonovka (standard rootstock) are extremely rugged, hardier, more tolerant of drought and poor soils, very long-lived, and more capable of thriving under a regime of benign neglect.

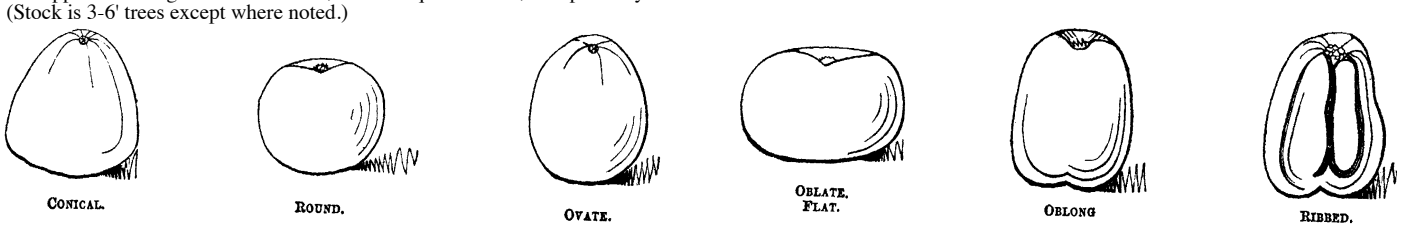
Bud 118 semi-dwarfing rootstock produces a tree that is about **85–90%** of standard size or even larger. Sometimes Bud 118 trees are called semi-standards or even standards. Plant about 20–25' apart. Considered to be more precocious than standards, and probably more productive. Very hardy, though not as hardy as Antonovka.

134B Grimes Golden on B118
150B Liberty on B118

M111 semi-dwarfing rootstock produces a tree that is about **65–80%** of standard size. Sometimes M111 trees are called semi-standards. You can plant them closer together than standards, about 15–20' apart. M111 may not be more precocious than trees on standard. However it will likely be more productive. It has a relatively shallow spreading root system, does well in light soils, and is relatively drought tolerant. It is less well-rooted, not as long-lived, and not as hardy as Antonovka.

102C Ashmead's Kernel on M111
104C Baldwin on M111
105C Black Oxford on M111
110C Calville Blanc d'Hiver on M111
115C Chisel Jersey on M111
116C Cortland on M111
118C Cox's Orange Pippin on M111
119C Dabinett on M111
123C Esopus Spitzenburg on M111
127C Frostbite on M111
135C Harrison on M111
138C Honeycrisp on M111
142C Hudson's Golden Gem on M111
148C Kingston Black on M111
152C Macoun on M111
156C McIntosh on M111
158C Michelin on M111
165C Northern Spy on M111
179C Roxbury Russet on M111
198C Winthrop Greening on M111
202C Yarlington Mill on M111





Rootstocks

We offer most apple varieties on standard-sized Antonovka rootstock. Where *A* follows the item number in the apple section, the variety is on standard rootstock. *B* indicates the variety is on Bud 118 rootstock, *C* indicates M111, and *D* is Bud 9. For more about rootstock, see pages 9 and 20.

Alexander Fall. Unknown parentage. Ukraine, c. 1700. Originally known as **Aporta**. Renamed Alexander in honor of the Czar Alexander I (1777–1825). First arrived in the U.S. in 1835 and quickly spread north. Very large round-conic fruit, faintly red-striped in the shade and brightly blushed orange-red in the sun. More conic than its famous oblate child, Wolf River. Firm coarse tender slightly tart juicy flesh, best know for its cooking qualities, although also quite good tart fresh eating. Long famous in Aroostook County and other northern areas where it can be picked for several weeks, reaching its prime in late fall. Bears young. Good cropper. Blooms midseason. Resistant to scab. Very hardy. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

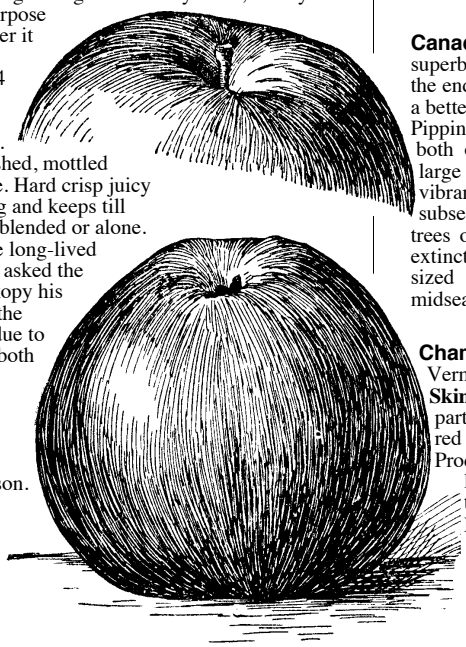
101A Alexander, $29.00

Ashmead's Kernel Winter. Unknown parentage. Gloucester, England, about 1700. Possibly a seedling of Nonpareil. An after-dinner apple of unparalleled quality. Not for those who like mild sweet apples. Each bite is an intense aromatic sting of sharp and sweet, with hints of other indescribable but absolutely wonderful tastes and aftertastes. This apple could be served as dessert at the fanciest gathering of your most discerning friends. Beginning to show up here and there in commercial orchards. A good sharp addition to your hard cider. Medium-small oblate and lopsided orange-gold-green russet fruits. Ripens in October. Store until New Year's to reach perfection. Keeps until they're all gone. Moderately vigorous tree may bear irregularly, but it's worth the wait. Somewhat scab resistant. Blooms midseason. Z4-7. Both are **ME Grown.**

102A Ashmead's Kernel, $29.00

102C Ashmead's Kernel on M111 rootstock, $29.50

Baldwin Winter. Wilmington, MA, about 1740. Also called **Butters Apple** or **Woodpecker**. Discovered on the Butters Farm by a surveyor planning the Middlesex Canal and noted as a favorite site for local woodpeckers. Scions from the original tree were grafted and growing in Maine by 1810, and by 1850 Baldwin was the standard all-purpose home and commercial variety wherever it was grown. It remained dominant in Maine until the terrible winter of 1934 when tens of thousands of trees perished and McIntosh became king. Large round-conic thick-skinned fruit. Light yellow skin almost entirely blushed, mottled and striped with red and deep carmine. Hard crisp juicy yellowish flesh makes excellent eating and keeps till spring. Makes top-quality hard cider, blended or alone. Vigorous adaptable hugely productive long-lived healthy tree. When grower Dave Gott asked the late renowned entomologist Ron Prokopy his opinion of Baldwin, Ron replied that the apple is "not practical commercially due to biennialism but the *only* apple that is both disease and insect resistant." Massachusetts' most famous apple where it grows to perfection. Also extremely nice here in central Maine. Hardiest in well-drained upland and north slopes. Blooms early to midseason. Z4-6. Both are **ME Grown.**



104A Baldwin, $29.00

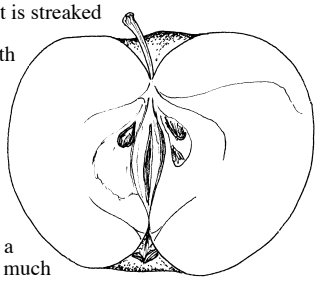
104C Baldwin on M111 rootstock, $29.50

Black Oxford Winter. Unknown parentage. Paris, Oxford County, ME, about 1790. This outstanding apple, a favorite long ago around much of Maine, has been making a huge comeback in the last 20 years. Our best seller until Honeycrisp came along. Medium-sized round fruit, deep purple with a blackish bloom. From a distance you might think you'd discovered a huge plum tree. Excellent pies, superb late cider. Leave the skins on for a delightful pink sauce. Best eating late December to March. They get sweeter and sweeter as the months go by. Good cooking until early summer. Some insect and disease resistance. Unusual light pink blooms, early midseason. Z4-5. Both are **ME Grown.** (2-6')

105A Black Oxford, $29.00

105C Black Oxford on M111 rootstock, $29.50

Blue Pearmain Fall-Winter. Thought to be from Middlesex County, MA, 1700s. One of New England's most famous classic varieties. Incredibly beautiful medium to very large fruit is streaked and splashed with purplish-red, mottled with russet and covered with a distinct blue bloom. Fairly dry flesh, firm, dense and slightly crisp, sweet with a bit of a tart background flavor. Tasty eaten out of hand, although you might want to peel the thick skin. Our number one favorite for baked apples. It also makes excellent pies and tarts. The yellow applesauce cooks up in a couple minutes. Grown throughout much of Maine for well over 200 years, and still found here and there. Known by a number of synonyms including Blue Pear Maine, Maine Blue Pear, Blue Pearamay, Blue Pearamell, Blue Pomade and, one I heard recently, "Painbear Bluemain!" Keeps in the root cellar until midwinter. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**



106A Blue Pearmain, $29.00

Calville Blanc d'Hiver Winter. Unknown parentage. France or Germany, 16th c. Also called **White Winter Calville**. Famous as a dessert and cooking apple for more than 400 years. Steve Wood of Poverty Lane Orchards called it "the best culinary apple in the world." Large flattish pale green-yellow fruit with uneven lumpy ribs and a dotted orange-red blush. Creamy-white aromatic fine-grained juicy flesh with a sweet distinctive effervescent flavor. Smooth when baked. Also recommended for vinegar, fresh cider and as a sharp (acid) component in fermented cider. Should be stored a month to reach peak flavor. Will keep until midwinter. Very vigorous strongly upright vase-shaped tree with good branch angles. Head the tree if necessary to force it down. Not for coldest areas though certainly hardy to Zone 4. Blooms midseason. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

110C Calville Blanc d'Hiver on M111 rootstock, $29.50

Canadian Strawberry Fall. Unknown parentage. Solon, ME. Beautiful superb-tasting dessert apple. Very good early season cider. Perfectly ripe at the end of September in central Maine where, in a good year, you won't find a better apple. In 2002 we put Canadian Strawberry up against Cox's Orange Pippin and Chestnut crab at a Common Ground Fair taste test and it beat both of them. Surprisingly juicy distinctly tart full-flavored medium-to-large round-conic fruit. Rich buttery-yellow skin overspread with a veil of vibrant red-orange. In 1996 the late Roy Slamm convinced me to visit and subsequently propagate nursery stock from the three ancient "Strawberry" trees on his South Solon farm, thus saving the apple from almost certain extinction. Now they are being spread throughout "Fedcoland." Medium-sized upright tree bears annually. Fruit does not keep well. Blooms midseason. Not to be confused with Chenango Strawberry. Z4-5. **ME Grown.**

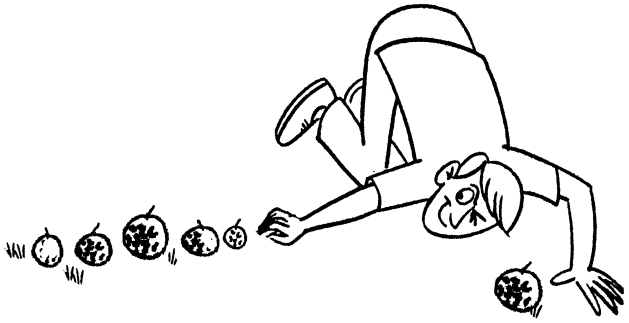
111A Canadian Strawberry, $29.00

Champlain Late Summer to Early Fall. Assumed to be from northern Vermont, before 1853. Also called **Haverstraw Pippin**, **Nyack, Paper Skin**, **Underdunk**, **Walworth** and more. Dessert and cooking apple of particular interest to Vermonter apple-history buffs. Pale yellow blushed-red ribbed fruit has fine-textured juicy and subacid (slightly tart) flesh. Productive tree bears young and often annually. In our effort to introduce lesser-known New England varieties, we are including Champlain for the first time. Scionwood made available through the generosity of Nick Botner. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

112A Champlain, $29.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nursuries

Apple Collections
Each collection chosen by Fedco's John Bunker, and may include varieties not listed in this catalog. Trees are individually labelled within each bundle.



Hard Cider Apple Collection **A bundle of 5** trees to begin your cider orchard. Contains 2–3 sharps or bittersharps, and 2–3 bittersweets. Includes 5 different varieties. **ME Grown.**

227A Hard Cider Apple Collection, bundle of 5, $135.00

Hard Cider Apple Bittersweet Collection **A bundle of 10** bittersweet trees to begin your cider orchard. Includes at least 3 different bittersweet varieties. **ME Grown.**

228A Hard Cider Apple Bittersweet Collection, bundle of 10, $260.00

Hard Cider Apple Bittersweet Collection **A bundle of 25** bittersweet trees to begin your cider orchard. Includes at least 3 different bittersweet varieties. Note that purchasing one of these bundles will give you an additional 15% discount. See the order sheet for details. **ME Grown.**

229A Hard Cider Apple Bittersweet Collection, bundle of 25, $625.00

Heritage Apple Collection **A bundle of 5** trees to begin your own heritage orchard. Includes 5 different heirlooms traditionally grown in northern New England. **ME Grown.**

230A Heritage Apple Collection, bundle of 5, $135.00

Heritage Apple Collection **A bundle of 10** trees for your heritage orchard. Includes 10 different heirlooms traditionally grown in northern New England. **ME Grown.**

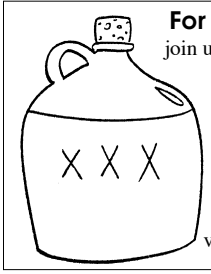
231A Heritage Apple Collection, bundle of 10, $260.00

Chestnut Early Fall. MN 240 (Malinda x open-pollinated) U Minn, 1946. Lots of people love this apple. Golf-ball–sized fruit with truly excellent fresh-eating qualities. Yellow and bronze-red skin with some russeting. Firm crisp juicy fine-grained very sweet yellowish flesh. The apple version of Sun Gold tomato—fabulous complex flavor in a small package. For a growing number of people in central Maine, late September is Chestnut apple time. For years we've put out a bushel a day at Fedco's Common Ground Fair booth and watched them disappear. Neophytes often look at the little fruit with disdain, but most take one bite and their frowns turn to smiles. Chestnut needs no sugar to make a sweet and subtle sauce. Stores about a month. Medium-sized productive tree bears annually. Disease resistant. Blooms midseason. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

114A Chestnut, $29.00

Chisel Jersey Late Fall. Full bittersweet cider apple. Martock, Somerset, England, 19th c. One of the most famous of the Somerset bittersweets. Makes a strong rich cider. Best for blending. Medium acidity, highly astringent, harsh and high in tannins. (SG 1.059, acidity 2.2g/L, tannin 4g/L) Round to slightly conic slightly greasy fruit, colored with a beautiful combination of dull opaque reds, yellows and russets. In old English *chesil* means 'pebble'—Chisel Jersey is small, hard and bitter! Spreading tree may require encouragement to develop a strong central leader. Consistent cropper. Closely related to Dabinett; they should not be relied upon to pollinate one another. One source recommends Harry Masters Jersey as a good companion in that regard. Late bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

115C Chisel Jersey cider apple on M111 rootstock, $29.00



For the ultimate cider experience
join us at the 20th annual Cider Days festival in Franklin County, MA, on November 1–2, 2014. A weekend of workshops, panels, orchard tours, tastings, dinners and everything cider. If you are into apples and cider, it is just the thing for you. Join Fedco's John Bunker and cider enthusiasts and celebrities from all over the U.S. and Canada for an educational—and very fun—weekend.

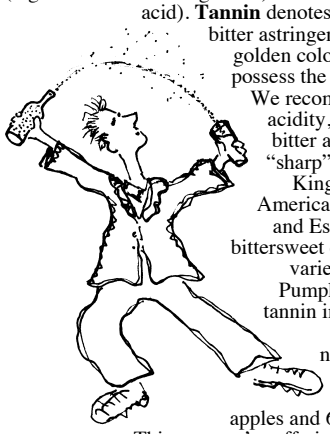
Cider Apples

Each year we offer an assortment of European and American cider varieties. Many of these are NOT for fresh eating. Please note the descriptions for details. They do however possess the qualities that make them very desirable for hard cider production, and hard (or fermented) cider is what we mean by 'cider.' We also offer crabapples suitable for cider. See the crabapple section, pages 46-48, for descriptions.

Planning a Cider Orchard? It's All in the Mix!

For the best cider, plant several varieties. That's because when it comes to cider, it's all in the mix. Unlike beer, cider has only one ingredient: apples. So the apples have to provide everything: acidity, sugar and tannin.

We classify the cider varieties into four categories: **sharp** (low in tannins, high in acid), **sweet** (high in sugar, little or no tannin, low acid), **bittersharp** (high in tannins and high acid) and **bittersweet** (high tannins and sugar, low acid). **Tannin** denotes naturally occurring compounds whose bitter astringency gives rounded full flavor, body and golden color. **Vintage** refers to those varieties that possess the perfect qualities for cider.



We recommend you plant some sharp apples for acidity, some sweet apples for sugar and some bitter apples for the tannin. Find the acidity in "sharp" or "bittersharp" cider varieties such as Kingston Black or from any of a number of American dessert apples such as Golden Russet and Esopus Spitzenburg. Get your sugar from bittersweet cider varieties or from sweet American varieties such as Monroe Sweet, Munson or Pumpkin Sweet of Mt. Vernon. You can find tannin in any of the bittersweet types—or even from the wild roadside apples in your neighborhood. You'll know it when you taste it. Our best cider has been from about 40% bittersweet (astringent) apples and 60% mixed dessert and cooking apples.

This year we're offering three crabapple varieties that deserve a place in the cider orchard: Brandywine, Dolgo and Niedzwetzkyana. See pages 46 and 47 for descriptions.

Don't vintners make single variety wines? Absolutely. Grape wines are often best as single varietals. So is perry. There are those who assume the same would be true of apples. Unfortunately, not so, as very few apples have all the necessary attributes. Kingston Black is one, but others are precious few.

Check the apple chart on page 8 for this year's cider apples.

Cider Reading

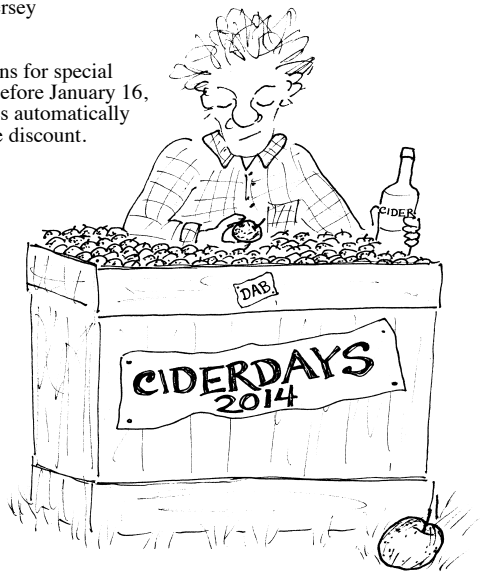
We recommend several books on cidermaking: Two good basic books are *Cider, Hard and Sweet* by Ben Watson and *Cider: Making, Using and Enjoying Sweet and Hard Cider* by Annie Proulx and Lew Nichols. *The New Cidermaker's Handbook* by Claude Jolicoeur takes cidermaking to a more advanced level. If you're considering a trip to the cider orchards of England, or just want to know more about English cider, pick up a copy of *Ciderland* by James Crowden.

Commercial Cider Orchards

For those planting larger quantities of cider apples, we recommend four varieties:

Dabinett
Harry Masters Jersey
Kingston Black
Yarlington Mill

See those descriptions for special pricing. If ordered before January 16, these large quantities automatically qualify for a volume discount.



Cortland Fall-Winter. (Ben Davis x McIntosh) NY Stn, 1915. A cross between two commercial giants at the time, one (Ben Davis) on the way out and the other (McIntosh) on the way in. Although never as important as McIntosh, Cortland remains a very popular apple throughout northern New England even in this era of many new introductions. Medium to medium-large slightly ribbed dull red fruit with a purple blush. Excellent eating and cooking. Slow-oxidizing white flesh is very good in salads; fine-grained, crisp, tender, juicy. Produces a surprisingly delightful cider, fresh or fermented, in a mix or even on its own. Vigorous tall upright spreading tree. Annual producer of heavy crops. A recent U. Mass. study showed resistance to apple maggot fly. Bears young; remove fruit for the first year or two to avoid stunting growth. Susceptible to scab. Blooms midseason. Z4-5. Both are **ME Grown**.

116A Cortland, $29.00

116C Cortland on M111 rootstock, $29.50

Cox's Orange Pippin Fall. Possibly a seedling of Ribston Pippin. Near Slough, Bucks, England, around 1825. Deservedly one of the three or four most famous of all apples. Not only one of the best eating apples ever but also one of the most sought-after in modern apple breeding; parent or grandparent of many other varieties. Revered in the U.K. Medium-sized all-purpose aromatic fruit is red-orange to red with orange russet striping and wash. Perfectly balanced slightly subacid flavor and crisp juicy tender flesh improve with storage. Moderately vigorous moderately productive tree bears young and annually. Prefers cooler climates and higher pH (6.5–7.5+). The oldest Maine Cox's I know is about 40 years old, thriving in Mercer, Zone 4. Scab resistant. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. Both are **ME Grown**.

118A Cox's Orange Pippin, $29.00

118C Cox's Orange Pippin on M111 rootstock, $29.50

Dabinett Late Fall. Medium-bittersweet cider apple. Probably a seedling of Chisel Jersey. Middle Lambrook, Somerset, England. (SG 1.057, acidity 1.8g/L, tannin 2.9g/L) One of the most popular cider varieties in Somerset today and one of the mainstays of Poverty Lane Cider Orchards in Lebanon, NH. At a MOFGA workshop, Steve Wood of of Poverty Lane and Farnum Hill Ciders told us, "If you're going to plant one bittersweet, plant this one." Medium-sized roundish fruit covered with sooty brownish brick-red stripes and blush. Looks rotten even when perfectly firm and ripe. Dense astringent juicy flesh. Sugar content fair and fermentation moderate. High quality well-balanced low-acid cider with a soft-tasting tannin. Picked last week of October, sometimes fermented alone but usually blended with other late varieties. Crops annually. Grower-friendly tree with a spreading drooping habit may require help in developing a strong central leader. Not pollen compatible with Chisel Jersey. Midseason bloom. Z4-6. Both are **ME Grown**.

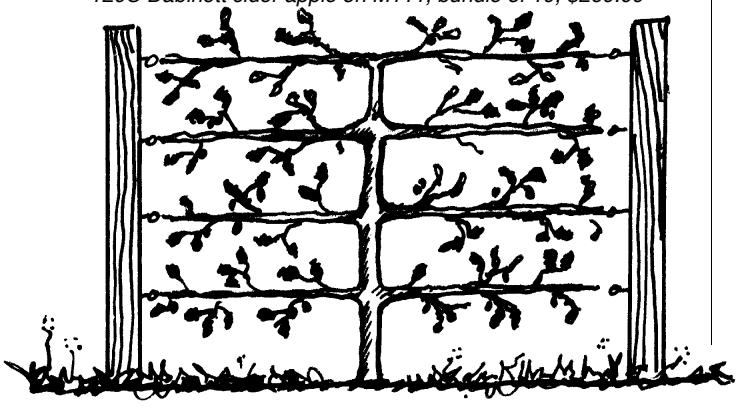
119A Dabinett cider apple, $29.00

119C Dabinett cider apple on M111 rootstock, $29.00

Dabinett Late Fall. Medium-bittersweet cider apple. Same as above with special prices for ten trees. Both are **ME Grown**.

120A Dabinett cider apple, bundle of 10, $260.00

120C Dabinett cider apple on M111, bundle of 10, $260.00

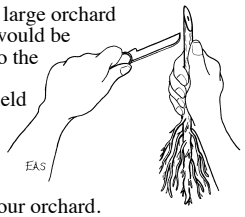


Special Orders and Custom Grafting

Small orders: If you are looking for a variety not listed here, we may have it in one of our nurseries. These special-order trees cost $35 each. If we don't currently have the variety you seek, we can custom graft it for you for $50 each. In both cases, payment up front is required. You will be refunded if we are unsuccessful in acquiring the tree.

Large orders: If you are interested in planting a large orchard (several hundred or several thousand trees), we would be happy to custom graft the varieties you want onto the rootstock of your choice. These will be small bare-root trees ready to plant in the spring (not field grown by us). This is a great cost savings for large-scale orchardists. Please contact us for details: write, call or send an email to: trees@fedcoseeds.com.

We'd be pleased to work with you as you plan your orchard.



Duchess of Oldenburg Late Summer. Russia, 17th c. Also called **Duchess**. Imported in 1835 with the first wave of Russian apples and named to honor Catherine Pavlovna, Grand Duchess of Oldenburg, sister of Czar Alexander. Duchess was planted extensively wherever growers needed extreme hardiness. It's still quite popular in northern New England. Aroostook County's favorite apple. Highly esteemed for all sorts of cooking; Duchess is one of the best of all pie apples. Cooks up quickly into a creamy delicious sauce. Medium-sized round red-striped fruit. Firm fine-grained crisp tender juicy subacid aromatic flesh. Small to medium-sized adaptable tree. May not do well in warmer districts. Duchess seedlings are used as an extremely hardy rootstock called Borowinka. Scab resistant. Blooms early-midseason. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

121A Duchess of Oldenburg, $29.00

Ellis Bitter Early Fall. Medium-bittersweet cider apple. Newton St Cyres, Devon, Somerset, England. Large oddly conic fruit—sometimes ribbed—yellowish-green mostly striped and blushed with red. White-fleshed, sweet, crisp and juicy. Soft, astringent, tannin. (SG 1.053, acidity 2g/L, tannin 2.4g/L) Particularly useful for its early ripening. Blend with other early dessert apples or cider varieties. You can also ferment it alone and blend it later with the late apples. Still grown in England's West Country cider orchards and now being planted in the U.S. Large spreading vigorous tree produces regularly. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

122A Ellis Bitter cider apple, $29.00

Esopus Spitzenburg Fall-Winter. Unknown parentage. Esopus, NY, 18th c. Herman Melville wrote in his 1853 *Bartleby, the Scrivener*: "Copying law-papers being proverbially a dry, husky sort of business, my two scriveners were fain to moisten their mouths very often with Spitzenburgs, to be had at the numerous stalls nigh the Custom House and Post office." Turkey and Nippers chose well. For more than 200 years the apple has been a choice dessert and culinary variety, mentioned in nearly every list of best-flavored varieties. Slightly subacid, crisp and juicy. Medium-large bright-red round to mostly conic fruit, covered with russet dots, not unlike a slightly more conical Starkey. Excellent acid source for sweet or fermented cider. Moderately vigorous tree, with easily trained wide-angle branches. Bears moderate crops. Supposedly susceptible to scab though we don't spray ours and have been happy with the fruit quality. Blooms mid-late season. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

123C Esopus Spitzenburg on M111 rootstock, $29.00

Fall Jenneting Fall. Connecticut before 1846. Excellent mid-fall dessert and cooking apple. A couple of years ago I received a phone call from a retired orchardist, Gladys Johnston of Jefferson, ME. She asked me if I knew of an apple called Fall Jenneting. I'd heard of it but never seen one. Next thing I knew my longtime apprentice Abbey Verrier and I were off to meet Gladys and her husband Dick high above Damariscotta Lake. After a delightful visit, we collected scionwood from the old tree. In September we returned to pick the perfectly ripe fruit—moderately firm, fine, crisp, tender, juicy, sprightly, subacid. "A marvelous nutty flavor, only mildly sour," was how Abbey described it. Similar in appearance to Winthrop Greening. Scionwood made available through the generosity of the Johnstons. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

124A Fall Jenneting, $29.00

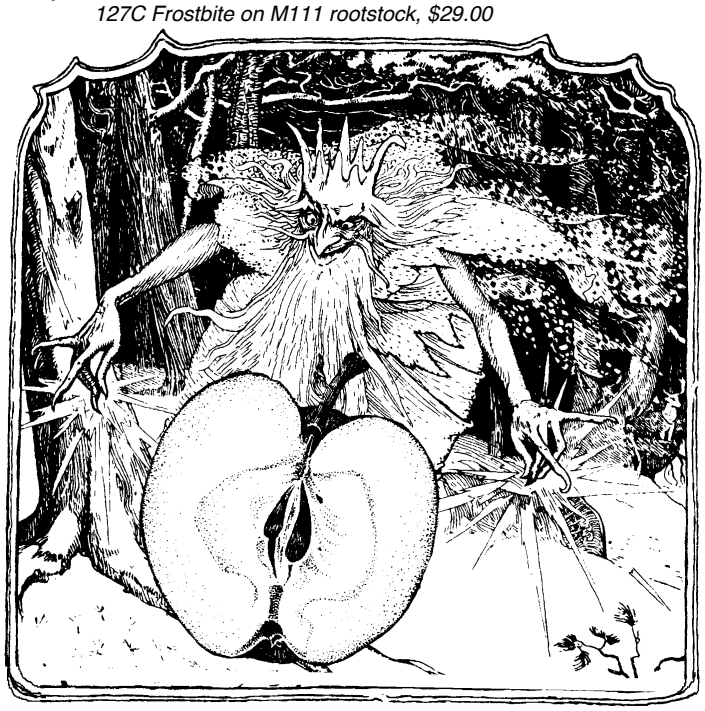
ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

Fameuse Early Fall. Unknown parentage. Canada, before 1700. Also called **Snow**. Excellent fresh eating, sauce and cider apple. The 1865 Department of Agriculture yearbook sums it up: "Flesh remarkably white, tender, juicy…deliciously pleasant, with a slight perfume… No orchard in the north can be counted as complete without this variety… It is just so good that everybody likes to eat of it; and when cooked, it is white, puffy, and delicious." Famous in Maine for well over 150 years. Medium-small roundish ruby-red thin-skinned fruit. Keeps until late December. Thought to be a parent of McIntosh. Productive long-lived tree. As one of the few apples that comes relatively true-to-type from seed, occasional "variations on a Fameuse theme" can be found in old orchards. Susceptible to scab. Blooms mid-late. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

125A Fameuse, $29.00

Frostbite Fall-Winter. MN 447. Unknown parentage. U Minn, 2007. Seed planted at the University of Minnesota before 1936, but unnamed until 2008. This massively flavored dessert apple—not for the faint of heart—provides a whole new level of culinary experience. Likely the most distinctive and unusual apple we've ever tried. Described as tasting like molasses or even sugar cane. The fall dessert apple that we most look forward to on our farm. We love it! The roundish fruit is medium-sized and dark bluish-purple. The aromatic crisp crystalline flesh is an apricot-orange color with occasional red staining. So juicy it'll run down your hand. Extremely hardy, productive and reliable. Annually bearing. Not recommended for warmer districts. Blooms early midseason. Z3-6. **ME Grown.**

127C Frostbite on M111 rootstock, $29.00



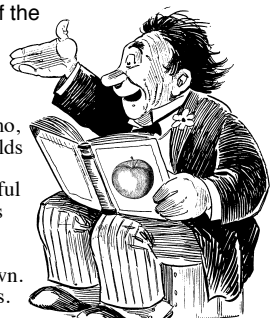
Golden Russet Winter. Uncertain origin. Thought to be from England, New York or New England, before 1800. The champagne of cider apples, ripening late in fall when the best sweet cider is ready to be made: sweet, balanced, thick and smooth. Also recommended as a sharp component for fermented cider. Excellent eating; keeps all winter and well into spring. For more than 100 years, orchardists have been attempting to sort out the various russets. Several different apples have been called Golden Russet. Most resemble one another visually, but differ in fruit qualities and tree habits. This is most likely the Golden Russet of Western New York. Round medium-sized fruit keeps all winter and maintains its superior sweet flavor. Vigorous diverging upcurving tree with long willowy branches. Scab resistant. Blooms early to midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

130A Golden Russet, $29.00

GoldRush Winter. Co-op 38 {PRI 2750-6 [Co-op 17 (PRI 1689-100) x Golden Delicious]} Purdue-Rutgers-Illinois (PRI) Co-op, 1994. The first of the new disease-resistant varieties has superior storage qualities. Not only that, but it's probably *the* best-tasting apple to come out of the PRI program. Love those Golden Delicious qualities! Medium-to-large round-conic fruit has uniform deep greenish-yellow opaque chewy skin that turns golden in storage. Creamy white green-flecked flesh is hard, very crisp, juicy and tart. A solid apple with excellent flavor. Serve them for dessert in February and March and no one will be disappointed. Ripens very late in fall, but will usually do so successfully in central Maine. Keeps until early May in the root cellar. Very precocious. Highly resistant to scab and powdery mildew. Moderate fireblight resistance. Moderately vigorous tree with a strong central leader. Blooms mid-late. Z4-9. **ME Grown.**

131A GoldRush, $29.00

Not Far from the Tree: A Brief History of the Apples and the Orchards of Palermo, Maine, 1804-2004 by John Bunker, 200 pages, 8½ x 11, softcover. John reveals how he came to know so much about apples—he spent years talking to his neighbors in Palermo, listening to their stories and walking their fields and orchards learning the varieties, how they came to be planted there and why. A wonderful lesson in Maine history as told by apples. His engaging narrative and entertaining and informative drawings take us into the rich diverse past of a seemingly unremarkable town. A history of agriculture told in the apple trees. Many long abandoned and all but forgotten, some nursed back to health, and some finding new life as scionwood that begets generations of apple trees from Fedco. John is a colleague and a friend and I confess that I am not a disinterested reviewer. I even have a tiny part in his story—I taught him how to make an apple pie. John's love of apples and affection for his neighbors and town speak clearly through each page. Copiously illustrated in John's unmistakable style.



–David Shipman

We will donate $5 from the sale of each book to the Palermo Historical Society.

L578A Not Far From the Tree, $22.00

Gravenstein Late Summer. Thought to be of 17th-c. Italian or German origin. Brought to the U.S. in the early 19th c. By 1880 it was the most popular summer apple in Maine. Probably *the* most famous of all summer apples and usually considered the best of all pie apples. Still commonly grown in Nova Scotia, northern California, Oregon and Washington. Tender crisp aromatic richly flavored juicy firm tart flesh. Outstanding eating and cooking. Rated "very good to best" by Beach in *Apples of New York*. Fruit is medium to large, irregularly round, asymetrical, usually ribbed. Thin tender skin, striped with yellow, red and orange. Large vigorous productive tree with a nearly perfect wide-angle branching habit that requires practically no training. Ripens over several weeks. Too tender for colder areas of New England. Blooms early. Triploid: not suitable for pollinating other varieties. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

132A Gravenstein, $29.00

Gray Pearmain Late Fall. Probably Skowhegan, ME, before 1880. Absolutely delicious dessert apple with a distinct pear flavor and firm white juicy mildly tart flesh. Medium-sized obscurely ribbed and muffin-shaped fruit has a soft opaque greenish-yellow skin with a rosy pink blush, a russet veil, and a greyish bloom. Pick them late—even after the Spies. Eat them in the fall, winter or spring. Produces excellent juice. Keeps extremely well. The most unusual variety Steve and Marilyn Meyerhans grow at The Apple Farm in Fairfield, ME. Mentioned as being grown by C.A. Marston of Skowhegan, just a few miles from The Apple Farm, in the 1885 *Maine Agricultural Yearbook*. There were five or six of the trees in the orchard when Steve and Marilyn purchased it more than 30 years ago from Royal Wentworth. Those trees were already old. Unfortunately they never thought to ask the soft-spoken Wentworth about the apple. Its true origin may remain forever a mystery. Annually bearing manageable easy-to-grow medium-sized spreading tree. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

133A Gray Pearmain, $29.00

Grimes Golden Fall. Unknown parentage. West Virginia, c. 1804. All-around excellent variety grown in old Maine orchards for more than 100 years. Medium-sized roundish fruit with opaque yellow skin, scattered with grey russet dots and an occasional faint blush. Thought to be a parent of Golden Delicious. Tart citrusy crisp dense firm fruit is excellent for dessert and cooking: wonderful spicy fresh eating and wonderful applesauce. Makes a thick sweet cider and a good single-variety hard cider: light and fruity. Tends to begin dropping fruits before you can pick them, but fret not—they're ready to eat. Just collect them off the ground as they fall and use them up. Then pick the rest off the tree and store in the root cellar until spring. Productive, annual bearing, precocious. Highly recommended. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

134B Grimes Golden on Bud 118 rootstock, $29.00

Harrison Mid-Late Fall. Vintage cider apple. Unknown parentage. South Orange, Essex County, NJ, as early as 1712. Originally called **Osborne**, then **Long Stem**. Other names include **Newark**, **Orange Cider** and **Harrison's Newark**. One of the most renowned American cider apples, dating from the early days of domestic cidermaking. Harrison cider was famous and considered to be better than champagne. Medium-small oval yellow-skinned fruit. Rich firm dry yellow flesh. According to Coxe in 1817, it makes a "high coloured, rich, and sweet cider of great strength, commanding a high price in New-York, frequently ten dollars and upwards per barrell." Vigorous productive tree. A Harrison revival is underway in several locations on the East Coast. Performing well our central-Maine trials. Appears to be plenty hardy. Z4-8. Both are **ME Grown.**

135A Harrison cider apple, $29.00

135C Harrison cider apple on M111 rootstock, $29.00

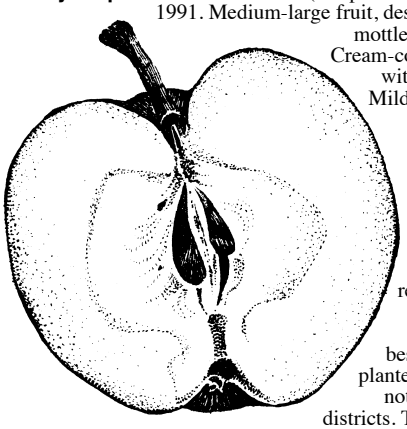
Harry Masters Jersey Fall. Medium-full bittersweet cider apple. Often called **Port Wine** in north Somerset. Probably introduced by Harry Masters, Yarlington Mill, Woolston, Somerset, England, before 1900. High-quality bittersweet variety recommended for blending with other fall varieties. Soft astringent tannin. (SG 1.056, acidity 2g/L, tannin: 3.2g/L) Becoming popular commercially in New England in recent years. Poverty Lane Orchards has several rows. Medium-large oblate-conic fruit, mostly covered with bright red stripes and blush, and nearly always featuring a splash of yellow russet around the stem. Harry Masters himself was *the* miller at Yarlington Mill. Harry Masters Jersey and Yarlington Mill are thought to be of the same parentage. Blooms midseason. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

136A Harry Masters Jersey cider apple, $29.00

Harry Masters Jersey Fall. Medium-full bittersweet cider apple. Same as above with special prices for ten trees. **ME Grown.**

137A Harry Masters Jersey cider apple, bundle of 10, $260.00

Honeycrisp Winter. MN 1711 (Keepsake x open-pollinated) U Minn, 1991. Medium-large fruit, described as "explosively crisp," mottled and striped red over yellow. Cream-colored flesh is sweet and juicy with hard snapping-crisp texture. Mild aroma and subacid flavor are top quality in September and improve steadily in storage. Unusual because it ripens in early fall yet keeps up to seven months in the root cellar. First of the many excellent University of Minnesota introductions to receive large-scale commercial attention, now has a huge following. Has become our best-selling apple. Probably best planted north of Massachusetts; has not performed as well in warmer districts. Tends towards annual bearing. Relatively small low-vigor upright spreading tree. Above-average scab resistance. Blooms mid-late season. Z3-4. Both are **ME Grown.**



138A Honeycrisp, $29.00

138C Honeycrisp on M111 rootstock, $29.50

Hudson's Golden Gem Fall. Tangent, OR, 1931. Discovered in a fence row and introduced soon afterward by A.D. Hudson's Wholesale Nurseries. This is a truly fine dessert fruit of unique appearance and exceptional flavor. Sweet juicy crisp smooth firm-but-melting yellow pear-like flesh. A local favorite in Oregon, more recently gaining notice practically everywhere apples are grown. Popularized in Maine through the efforts of Mark Fulford. Magnificent medium-to-large distinctly conical russeted long-stemmed fruit. Skin a soft yellow-tan, overlaid with a fine weave of light and dark browns. Stores several months. Productive annual-bearing scab-resistant tree. Also resists powdery mildew and fireblight. Blooms mid-late. Z4-9. **ME Grown.**

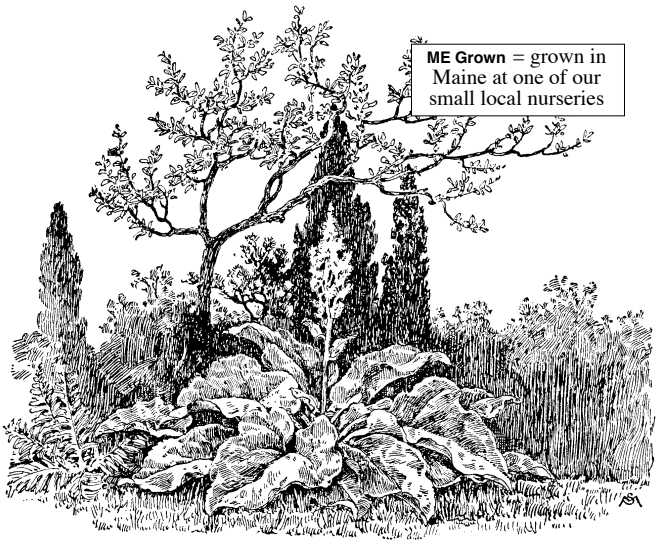
142C Hudson's Golden Gem on M111 rootstock, $29.50

Jonathan Fall-winter. Esopus Spitzenburg seedling. Woodstock, Ulster County, NY, before 1826. One of the most famous of all American apples. Named for Jonathan Hasbrouck, one of the apple's first champions. A very high-quality all-purpose variety. The medium-sized roundish red fruit is excellent for fresh eating: firm, juicy, crisp, tender, aromatic and mildly tart. Also good for cooking. Stores all winter. Productive, widely adapted and generally disease free. Used extensively in modern apple breeding, being parent to dozens of varieties. Its most famous progeny include Jonagold, Idared, Melrose and King David. Some resistance to scab. Blooms midseason. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

144A Jonathan, $29.00

Scab and Chives

Scab is the worst fungal disease affecting apples in New England. You can greatly reduce scab pressure by avoiding McIntosh, Cortland, Fameuse and any "Mac" relatives. But this is a tough call since they are all excellent varieties. You can also reduce scab pressure by picking up drops, cleaning up or mowing fallen foliage in the fall, and spreading a thin bit of lime and/or compost over the fallen foliage in the fall. Now there are reports that planting chives around apple trees will reduce scab pressure. We've been doing so and will give you a report before long. At the very least, we'll have plenty for our cottage cheese, salads and baked potatoes.



Functional Orchard Update summer 2014

"The whole is greater than the sum of its parts."

The five-year-old one-acre "functional orchard" in our backyard is looking more like a jungle each year. That's intentional. The idea is to grow fruit trees in a mixed plant environment and see what happens. You might call it semi-organized chaos. Forty apple trees surround a small pond in three concentric ovals. The trees themselves are surrounded by dozens of plant species. We introduced many of these woody and herbaceous "companions" while others have popped up spontaneously. This year we list an Orchard Companion Collection on page 66.

At first I was tempted to remove all the volunteers. After all, this is agriculture and I should be in control, right? But I've resisted the temptation to "weed out the weeds." I like to think of agriculture as a partnership between plants and people. I want to have a hand in what's going on in the functional orchard, but not a heavy hand. I want to trust the plants themselves. If they want to be there, maybe there's good reason.

It's not entirely laissez-faire however. I do use what I hope is a light touch. I keep each apple tree cleared about 12" around the base. I also remove volunteer *trees*. This is suppose to be an orchard, not the woods. I minimize external inputs: any plants I snip off or pull out get laid right there on the ground. The orchard floor becomes the compost heap, as it is in nature.

I get out into the functional orchard as often as I can. Regular observation is an essential part of learning this stuff. You can't overdo it. Here are a few of this year's observations:

* The apple trees seem to like the current set-up. They are thriving among all the companions. They have made good use of this summer's rain. The shoot growth has been great. Foliage color is a nice rich green.

* The soil is improving. We started with a woodsy duff and ledge. The hugel mounds are decomposing. The soil is moist, and the color is darkening.

* The companions like it here, too. The site is now covered with plants ranging in height from low ground covers to 3–4' tall. Most of the growing season the orchard has been a riot of color. We are maximizing the number of flowers and the amount of aromatics. I'd like to think we're confusing the heck out of the pests.

* There has been no borer damage at all. While the young trees in our more traditional orchard up the road have been hit by borers, something about this orchard seems to be fooling them. Could diversity be the best protection? (See Borers, page 6.)

* Drawbacks? The voles also like the new arrangement. Voles love dark protected environments with lots of plant cover. The cats and the goshawk have been hard at work but still we have a great crop of voles out there. A couple of the functional orchard trees have seen a small amount of summer vole damage. This is unusual. Another reason to keep the plants weeded back from the trunk 12" or so. (See Voles, page 7.)

How do you prove this system works? Maybe that's impossible. The scientific method isolates and tests. But this is not about the efficacy of one plant or another. Rather, it's about creating a community of interconnected plants where each one plays a role in a complicated system. The whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

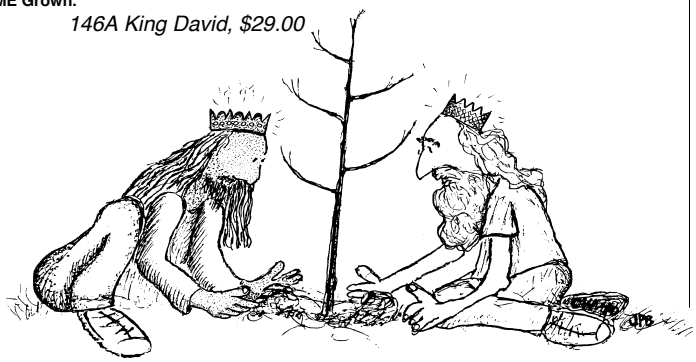
So we continue to plant and observe in the functional orchard and hope that it functions. Stay tuned. There's more information about all this scattered throughout this catalog. There's even more, including reprints and downloads, at fedcoseeds.com or check us out on Facebook.

Keepsake Winter. MN 1593 (MN 447 x Northern Spy) U Minn, 1979. Aptly named fruit keeps until June or even July in the root cellar. Very fine-textured light-yellow flesh is hard, crisp, juicy and sweet. Excellent aromatic flavor, but you must wait at least a month after picking. The irregular conic medium-sized fruit is almost entirely overlaid with stripes and a wash of very deep red. Moderately vigorous medium-sized tree usually bears annual crops. A northern grower on the North American Fruit Explorers (NAFEX) email discussion group called it "my most agreeable, reliable, grower overwhelmingly friendly apple. I have to thin the whoopee out of it every year. Big fruit. Big taste. Keepsake! Keepsake! Keepsake!" Recently discovered to be one of the parents of the sensational Honeycrisp. Somewhat resistant to scab. Blooms late. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

145A Keepsake, $29.00

King David Fall. Chance seedling, thought to be to Jonathan x Arkansas Black. Washington County, AR, 1893. King David has a reputation as an intensely flavored apple. In a good year, the initial bite is an explosion of flavors. You may wince, or even see stars. Pineapple, tangerine, lemon, sweet, sour, tart, sharp, aromatic and spicy all rush around simultaneously. The medium-sized roundish fruit is very dark solid maroon—nearly black. The fine juicy flesh is firm yet tender and distinctly yellow. Once grown here and there in Maine orchards. Now mostly forgotten. Ripens in the fall and keeps until the beginning of the year. Somewhat susceptible to scab, though we put up with it. It's one of our favorites. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

146A King David, $29.00



King of Tompkins County Fall. Unknown parentage. Washington, NJ, before 1800. Also called **King** or **Tompkins King**. We recommend this large juicy fruit for sweet eating right off the tree in October as well as to fill the sauce pot or the home cider press. Even the experts and apple snobs never pass up King in October. Round-to-oblate blocky lumpy fruit, almost entirely overlaid with dark orange-red stripes and blush. Crisp yellow flesh, tender, coarse with balanced flavor. Annually bears a medium to heavy crop. Keeps until January. I'm convinced that one of the reasons they named it King is its incredible vigor and productivity. The young grafted trees outgrow all others. When I topworked a wild tree at our place a few years ago, it grew 4' the first year! Gained recognition in New York's Tompkins County and later spread all over the Northeast becoming extremely popular as a home and commercial variety in the 19th c. Old trees still found here and there in Maine. Blooms midseason. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

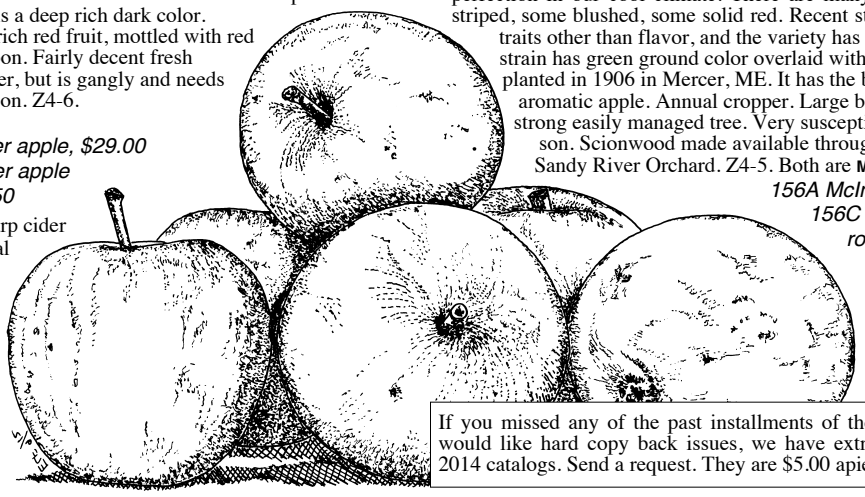
147A King of Tompkins County, $29.00

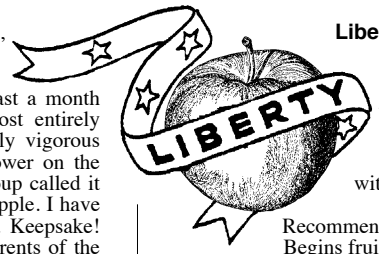
Kingston Black Fall. Bittersharp cider apple. Unknown parentage. Somerset, England, early 19th c. High in tannin and acidity. (SG 1.061, acidity 5.8g/L, tannin 1.9g/L) Produces full-bodied vintage cider with a nice blend of acid, tannins and sugar. One of the few varieties that makes a high-quality *single variety* hard cider, also good in a blend. We've become fans of Farnum Hill's tasty Kingston Black varietal. Also makes superb fresh cider. Even the fresh juice is a deep rich dark color. Medium-sized conical beautiful rich red fruit, mottled with red russet and deeper shades of maroon. Fairly decent fresh eating. The tree is a reliable bearer, but is gangly and needs careful pruning. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. Both are **ME Grown.**

148A Kingston Black cider apple, $29.00
148C Kingston Black cider apple on M111 rootstock, $29.50

Kingston Black Fall. Bittersharp cider apple. Same as above with special prices for ten trees. **ME Grown.**

149A Kingston Black cider apple, bundle of 10, $260.00
149C Kingston Black cider apple on M111, bundle of 10, $265.00





Liberty Late Summer-Fall. NY 55140-19 [Macoun x PRI 54-12 (PRI Co-op complex cross includes Rome Beauty, Jersey Black, McIntosh, Wealthy and *M. floribunda*)] NY Stn, 1978. Often cited as the best of the disease-resistant varieties, particularly in the Northeast. Somewhat similar to Macoun. Handsome medium-sized round-conic bluish-pinkish-red apple with crisp white flesh of very good dessert quality when dead ripe. Excellent cooking and sweet cider, too. Recommended for single-variety sweet cider. Keeps till late fall. Begins fruit production at an early age, bearing consistent heavy annual crops. Naturally well-structured sturdy tree is easy to care for. Considered to be 100% scab-immune, though not resistant to insects or other lesser apple diseases. Allowing Liberty to crop too heavily at a young age can stunt final tree size and reduce productivity. Even with mature trees, thinning fruit clusters is important to maintain fruit size. Blooms early to midseason. Z4-6. Both are **ME Grown.**

150A Liberty, $29.00
150B Liberty on Bud 118 rootstock, $29.50

Macoun Fall. NY 547 (McIntosh x Jersey Black) NY Stn, 1923. This is an apple with a near cult following, even though practically no one seems to know how to pronounce the name. (It rhymes with town, not tune!) Especially good choice for those who like McIntosh but live south of the Maine border where Macs might not reach their prime. Medium-sized ribbed lobed truncate fruit, almost entirely covered with a dark purplish-red blush. The very juicy aromatic white flesh is crisp with a rich sweet flavor. Excellent for fresh eating. Large vigorous upright spreading tree. Moderately productive. Although susceptible to scab, the fruit appears to be less affected than McIntosh. Macoun also shows some natural resistance to insect damage. Blooms mid-late season. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

152C Macoun on M111 rootstock, $29.50

Maiden Blush Late Summer-Fall. Probably Burlington, NJ, well before 1800. One of the oldest American varieties, ideal for all-purpose homestead use. Ripens over several weeks. Each waxen yellow cheek sports a crimson blush. Fine-grained white juicy flesh. A couple years ago Valerie Desrochers of Saco wrote to me, "This old tree is my friend and I would love to see it live on." It was planted about the time of her grandfather's wedding in 1890, and her brother was married under it. Something about that maiden's blush? Her mother calls it "the Apple Pie Tree—sweet apples for pies and applesauce!" Ancient trees can still be found throughout Maine. Blooms mid to late season. Scionwood made available through the generosity of the Desrochers family. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

153A Maiden Blush, $29.00

McIntosh Fall. Possibly a seedling of Fameuse or perhaps St. Lawrence x Alexander. Dundela, Ontario, 1811. The most important apple in the Northeast. Although not planted in many other locations, it grows to perfection in our cool climate. There are many strains of McIntosh, some striped, some blushed, some solid red. Recent strains have been selected for traits other than flavor, and the variety has gotten a bad reputation. This strain has green ground color overlaid with red stripes and blush. It was planted in 1906 in Mercer, ME. It has the best "Mac" taste. A delicious aromatic apple. Annual cropper. Large beautifully rounded spreading strong easily managed tree. Very susceptible to scab. Blooms midseason. Scionwood made available through the ongoing generosity of Sandy River Orchard. Z4-5. Both are **ME Grown.**

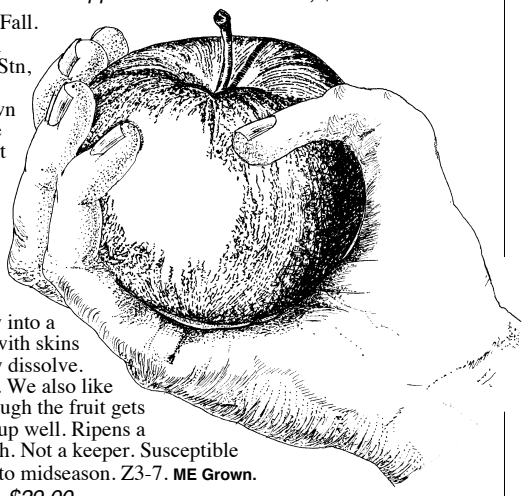
156A McIntosh, $29.00
156C McIntosh on M111 rootstock, $29.50

If you missed any of the past installments of the orcharding sidebars and would like hard copy back issues, we have extra copies of the 2013 and 2014 catalogs. Send a request. They are $5.00 apiece.

Michelin Fall. Medium-bittersweet cider apple. Developed by Mr. Legrand of Yvetot, Normandy, France. Introduced into England in 1884. Named after a famous French cider researcher. Sweet astringent juicy flesh and soft tannin juice, best for blending with other midseason varieties. (SG 1.050, acidity 2.5g/L, tannin 2.3g/L) Medium-small conical ribbed pale green fruit dotted with russet and sometimes slightly blushed. Resembles Tolman Sweet or maybe a thousand wild Maine roadside seedlings. Not as high in quality as other bittersweets but extremely popular in modern English cider orchards because of its reliability and productivity. Medium-sized tree with upright multi-leader habit. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

158C Michelin cider apple on M111 rootstock, $29.00

Milton Late Summer-Fall. (Yellow Transparent x McIntosh) New York Stn, Geneva, NY, 1923. Although mostly known as a cooking apple, we like Milton as a dessert fruit as well. The medium-sized roundish fruit has a thin tender rosy-red skin and slightly tart aromatic white moderately juicy flesh. Cooks up very quickly into a smooth yellow sauce with skins that almost completely dissolve. We always add spices. We also like it as a pie apple. Although the fruit gets saucy, the crust holds up well. Ripens a month before McIntosh. Not a keeper. Susceptible to scab. Blooms early to midseason. Z3-7. **ME Grown.**



160A Milton, $29.00

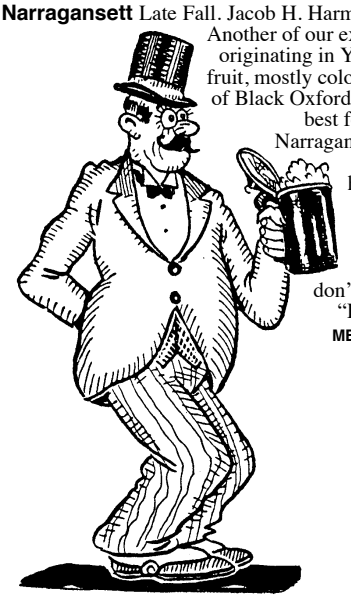
Monroe Sweet Late Fall. Aroostook County, ME, before 1893. Extremely rare northern-Maine variety, suitable for planting in the coldest districts. Ever on the search for apples originating in Maine, I located this one on my trip to Oregon two years ago to visit Nick Botner. It was commonly found throughout Aroostook County around the turn of the century, but it's possibly now extinct up there. We hope to remedy that. Medium-sized fruit, washed and splashed with red. Dry sweet flesh. Probably best for general kitchen use or cider. Extremely hardy. Uncertain bloom time. Scionwood made available through the generosity of Nick Botner. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

161A Monroe Sweet, $29.00

Munson Late Fall-Winter. Probably from Massachusetts before 1850. Also called **Munson Sweet.** Medium-large roundish oblate pale yellow fruit with the occasional blush. Fine-textured, juicy, sweet and very little acidity. Recommended for cooking and cider. Each year we will offer another of the apples rediscovered by the late Russell Libby, longtime fruit explorer and beloved director of Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association. Russell took me to this tree on the North Road in Mount Vernon many years ago. He knew it was old, but he had not identified it. I was able to do so and we saved it. The old tree may now be gone, but we're keeping Munson alive at the Maine Heritage Orchard in Unity and elsewhere. Blooms late. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

162A Munson, $29.00

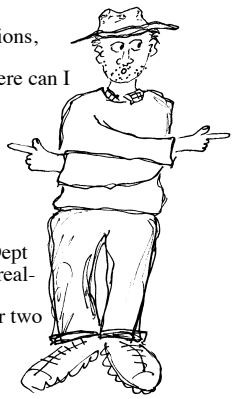
Narragansett Late Fall. Jacob H. Harmon farm, Buxton, ME, before 1873. Another of our extremely rare Maine apples, this one originating in York County. Medium-to-large conic fruit, mostly colored a deep purple-black reminiscent of Black Oxford. Tender dry subacid flesh, probably best for dessert and sauce. We discovered Narragansett in the collection of Nick Botner out in Oregon. We're now trialing it here and will report more in the next few years. Jacob Harmon also introduced a second apple called Harmon. We intend to offer that excellent dessert variety soon. And don't forget, as Curt Gowdy used to say, "Hi neighbor, have a Gansett!" Z4-6. **ME Grown.**



163A Narragansett, $29.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

Where can I taste that apple?



While we pride ourselves on our variety descriptions, there's nothing like the real thing. No words can compare to the taste. Frequently I'm asked, "Where can I taste a ….?" Here are a few suggestions.

The best place to taste apples in Maine is the **Great Maine Apple Day**, Saturday, October 25, 2014, at MOFGA in Unity.

Maine:

Visit the orchards near you. Contact the Maine Dept of Agriculture at (207) 287-3491 or online at getrealmaine.com for a complete list of the orchards in Maine. Many have unusual varieties. Even one or two rare finds can be worth the trip. Below are some orchards with good collections. There are others, too. Don't be frustrated if you call and reach no one. Just go. By September most of them are open 6 or 7 days a week.

- Ricker Hill Orchards, Turner, Androscoggin County (207) 225-5552, rickerhill.com. Organic apples and more, mostly modern varieties.
- Sweetser's Apple Barrel and Orchards, Cumberland Center, Cumberland County (207) 829-3074, maineapple.com. A great collection of 39 old and new varieties. Don't miss their Rolfe apples.
- Bailey's Orchard, Whitefield, Lincoln County (207) 549-7680. One of the largest collections of old varieties in the state. Pears, plums and crabapples, too.
- Lakeside Orchards, Manchester, Kennebec County (207) 622-2479, lakesideorchards.com. Organic apples and a good collection of mostly new varieties.
- Maine-ly Apples, Dixmont, Penobscot County (207) 234-2043, mainelyapples.com. An excellent collection of old, new and rare varieties.
- Rollins Orchard, Garland, Penobscot County (207) 924-3504, rollinsorchards.com. A very good collection of over 20 unusual old varieties. Plums and pears, too.
- Sandy River Orchard, Mercer, Somerset County (207) 587-2563, sandyriverapples.com. Established in 1852 by the Fenton family. A huge collection of over 140 varieties, many old and unusual.
- The Apple Farm, Fairfield, Somerset County (207) 453-7656. A great collection of unusual old and new varieties.
- Cayford Orchards, Skowhegan, Somerset County (207) 474-5200, cayfordorchards.com. Fifty-seven new and heirloom varieties of tree fruit on a sixth-generation family farm.
- Sewall Orchard, Lincolnville, Waldo County (207) 763-3956, sewallorchard.com. Organic apples including some of the first disease-resistant releases.
- Doles Orchard, Limington, York County (207) 793-4409, dolesorchard.com. Mix of old and new. They have two un-named varieties crossed by the late Maine plant breeder Russell Bailey. Both are extremely rare, if not unique.

Other New England States:

There are many great orchards all over "Fedco Nation." If you know of any we should list, please let us know. An online search should direct you to an orchard nearby.

- Nashoba Valley Winery, Bolton, MA (978) 779-5521, nashobawinery.com. A very large collection of old and new varieties.
- Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, MA (508) 869-6111, towerhillbg.org. The best collection of historic varieties in southern New England. A great place to study the fruit. Usually for sale at a special event on Columbus Day weekend. Call ahead.
- Hutchins Farm, Concord, MA (978) 369-5041, hutchinsfarm.com. Nice collection of old and mostly newer varieties.
- Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, MA (508) 347-3362, osv.org. Apple Days: October 4–5, 2014.
- Bear Swamp Orchards, Ashfield, MA (413) 625-2849, bearswamporchard.com. Organic U-pick apples and hard cider.
- Gould Hill Orchard, Contoocook, NH (603) 746-3811, gouldhillfarm.com. Large collection of new and old varieties.
- Poverty Lane Orchards, Lebanon, NH (603) 448-1511, povertylaneorchards.com. One of the best collections of unusual dessert apples in New England. One of the largest collections of cider apples in the U.S. They have most of the cider varieties we sell.
- Alyson's Orchard, Walpole, NH (603) 756-9800, alysonsorchard.com. Large collection of new and old varieties.
- Connecticut Valley Orchards, Westminster, VT (802) 722-3340. Large selection of new and old varieties.

Fedco Cider T-shirts: "It's Always OK to Be Bitter"
Hot off the press and just in time to celebrate your favorite fall drink is our new cider T-shirt. The shirt features John Bunker's full-color paintings of ten of the most famous English, French and American cider apples. Printed in Maine.

Men's Shirts 100% organic cotton grown in the U.S. Natural color.

L576A Men's T-shirt, small, $18.00
L576B Men's T-shirt, medium, $18.00
L576C Men's T-shirt, large, $18.00
L576D Men's T-shirt, extra-large, $18.00
L576E Men's T-shirt, 2x-large, $20.00
L576F Men's T-shirt, 3x-large, $20.00

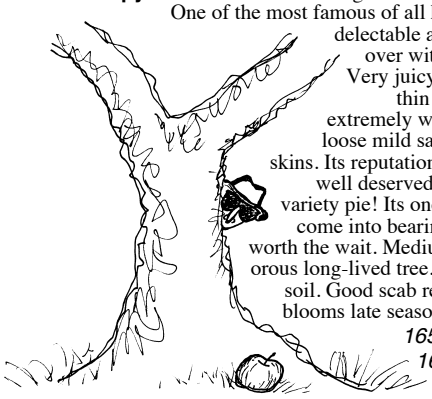
Women's Shirts More fitted style made from soft light grey 100% cotton.

L577A Women's T-shirt, small, $18.00
L577B Women's T-shirt, medium, $18.00
L577C Women's T-shirt, large, $18.00
L577D Women's T-shirt, extra-large, $18.00

New Brunswicker Late Summer-Fall. Probably a Duchess or Alexander seedling. Upper Woodstock, New Brunswick, about 1855. Also called **New Brunswick** and **New Brunswick Duchess**. All-purpose variety, similar to Duchess but ripening slightly later. Fruit is roundish, shaded, and striped with red. Juicy crisp tart flesh. If you like Duchess and you like to cook and you live in a cold spot, you should have this apple. The most famous introduction by one of the greatest plant breeders and nurserymen of the 19th c., New Brunswick's "Father of Fruit Culture" Francis Peabody Sharp (1823–1903). At one time nearly every farm in New Brunswick had a New Brunswicker tree. Northern Maine owes its orchard heritage almost entirely to Sharp. Recommended for the coldest districts. Blooms early. Z3-5. **ME Grown**.

164A New Brunswicker, $29.00

Northern Spy Winter. Chance seedling. East Bloomfield, NY, about 1800. One of the most famous of all heirloom apples. Very large delectable all-purpose fruit, covered all over with pink and light red stripes. Very juicy and tender. Even when the thin skin bruises, the fruit keeps extremely well. Cooks up quickly into a loose mild sauce. No need to remove the skins. Its reputation as a pie apple is more than well deserved: makes a very good single-variety pie! Its one drawback is being slow to come into bearing, although for us it's been worth the wait. Medium-to-large moderately vigorous long-lived tree. Prefers fertile well-drained soil. Good scab resistance. Leafs out late and blooms late season. Z4-6. Both are **ME Grown**.



165A Northern Spy, $29.00
165C Northern Spy on M111 rootstock, $29.50

Old Pierre Fall-Winter. Cuddebackville, NY, before 1700. Introduced to us by Andy Brennan and Polly Giragosian of Wurtsboro, NY. Andy and Polly make cider almost exclusively from wild apples. Recently we found their Aaron Burr cider in a lower Manhattan restaurant alongside ciders from France and Spain. Andy is also an avid fruit explorer. Old Pierre was introduced to him by descendants of Pierre Guymard, the French Huguenot who set up his plantation in the Minisink Patent in the late 17th, early 18th centuries. Large fruit with a greenish-yellow base that turns red in full sun, giving the apple an orange appearance. Suitable for fresh eating, cooking and cider. (SG 1.061, pH 3.3) We don't know if Old Pierre is a seedling or a grafted tree. We do know the massive tree is exceedingly old—likely more than 200 years. It may be the oldest tree from which we've ever taken scionwood. No scab. Z4-7. **ME Grown**.

166A Old Pierre, $29.00

Peach of Montreal Late Summer. Thought to be of French or Russian origin, before 1876. Also called **Peach** or **Montreal Peach**. Known as **Pomme Peche** in Quebec. All-purpose fruit to follow Duchess in colder districts. Excellent in sauce and nearly as good as Gravenstein in a pie. Develops from subacid to a richer and mellower flavor as the season progresses. Conical rich-yellow fruit often with a bright "peach-like" orange-red cheek. I love the comment Vic Caron of New Hampshire made years ago: "I think they are aptly named, the Peach is a peach." Still found in central and western Maine, across northern Vermont and New Hampshire, and into Quebec. Introduced to us by Josh Karp of Cate Hill Orchards in Craftsbury Common, VT. Z3-5. **ME Grown**.

167A Peach of Montreal, $29.00

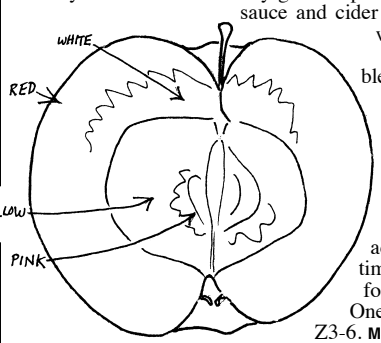
Pomme Grise Fall. Unknown origin. May have originated in Europe as early as the 17th c., and probably brought to Canada's St. Lawrence Valley by French immigrants. Found its way into Maine about 150 years ago. Medium-small russet fruit with a longtime reputation as one of the very best dessert apples. Firm, crisp, juicy, rich, subacid and aromatic, with interesting aftertastes. Superb fresh eating. The combination of the chalky russet and the green ground color give the skin its grey (grise) appearance. Vigorous dense round spreading tree prefers northern locations. Ours has been consistently productive. Keeps fairly well, still crunchy in January. Blooms midseason. Z3-5. **ME Grown**.

169A Pomme Grise, $29.00

Pumpkin Sweet (of Mt. Vernon, Maine) Probably originating in Massachusetts, Connecticut or maybe Maine, before 1870. There are several different Pumpkin Sweets found in New England. This one was traditionally grown throughout the southern half of Maine. The fruit is large, roundish, russeted and often highly colored with brilliant splashes of orange and red. It's a true sweet cooking and cider variety with little or no acidity. Mentioned in the Maine recollections of Henry Sanders, 1868-1956: "One was a full meal, even for a hungry boy. Baked and sliced into johnnycake and milk, it was a holiday dish." Josiah Pierce of Baldwin, ME, was the first to insist that I find the apple. Many thanks to Mt. Nebo Orchards in Mount Vernon for supplying the scionwood. Z4-6. **ME Grown**.

172A Pumpkin Sweet Mt Vernon, $29.00

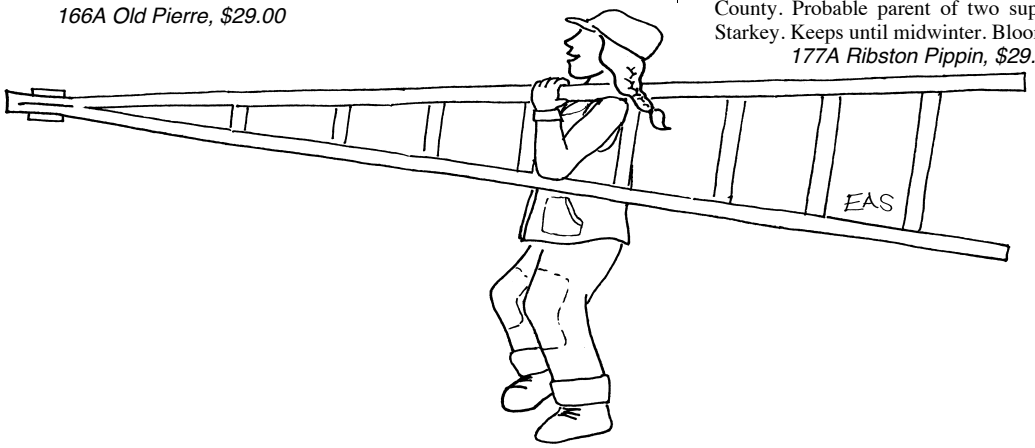
Redfield Fall. Wolf River x Niedzwetzkyana. NY Stn, 1938. One of the best and largest of the red-fleshed apples. Although usually considered way too tart for eating out of hand, the medium-large fruit with opaque solid rusty-red skin is absolutely great in pies. It makes wonderful jelly and turns sauce and cider red. Gained fame in the hard-cider world thanks to the wonderful single-variety Redfield cider and Redfield blends made by the late Terry Maloney of West County Cider. Very sharp and bitter in cidermakers' lingo. Flesh is two-toned: deep pink fading to white around the core. The flowers are also two-toned, deep pink, tipped with small white lightening bolts. And the bronze-red foliage adds further interest all season. Sometimes listed as a crabapple, but don't be fooled: the apples are the size of Macs. One of the very first to bloom each year. Z3-6. **ME Grown**.



174A Redfield, $29.00

Ribston Pippin Fall-Winter. Unknown parentage. Ribston Hall, Yorkshire, England, about 1707. Ribston has everything required for the perfect dessert apple: it's firm, very crisp, juicy and aromatic. The medium-sized round-conic "ugly" fruit is partially russeted and covered with a blend of reds, browns, oranges, yellows and olive greens. So visually distinct that Dickens wrote of a "little hard-headed Ripstone pippin-faced man" in *The Pickwick Papers*. Imported to Hallowell in 1800 by Dr. Benjamin Vaughan, then spread quickly to all the apple-growing regions of New England. One of the only English apples to thrive in Maine, even as far north as Penobscot County. Probable parent of two superb apples, Cox's Orange Pippin and Starkey. Keeps until midwinter. Blooms midseason. Z4-5. **ME Grown**.

177A Ribston Pippin, $29.00



Orchard Ladders
Sturdy lightweight traditionally shaped wooden orchard ladders have wide bottoms for stability and narrow tops for easy handling and placement.
Contact the manufacturer:
Peter Baldwin
207-722-3654
baldwin@acadia.net

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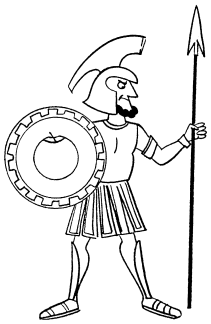


Rome Late Fall-Winter. Possibly a seedling of Westfield Seek-No-Further. Quaker Bottom (Rome), Lawrence County, OH, around 1817. One of the most famous of all American cooking apples, often the only one found in the grocery store when we were kids in the '50s and '60s. Still found now and then in commercial orchards. Fruit is large, solid deep red and sprinkled with small bright white dots. Flesh is more firm than McIntosh, moderately juicy, mildly tart and slightly aromatic. Mix with other varieties in pies and crisps. Productive and annually bearing. Keeps all winter in the root cellar. Scab susceptible. Blooms late. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

178A Rome, $29.00

Roxbury Russet Winter. Roxbury, MA, early 1600s. One of the best late-winter dessert and sauce apples: rich, spicy and juicy. The aromatic juice is recommended for both single-variety cider and blends, fresh or fermented. Hard medium-large oblate-conic-angular green fruit mostly covered with greenish to yellowish-brown russet. Not uniform in size, shape or color. Keeps until late spring. Medium-to-large vigorous spreading tree. Probably the first named American apple variety. Together with Baldwin and Rhode Island Greening, one of the big three commercial apples in New England for much of the 19th c. Last October I was privileged to give a talk in Roxbury. We hope to see the apple all over the city again before long. Scab resistant. Z4-6. Both are **ME Grown.**

179A Roxbury Russet, $29.00

179C Roxbury Russet on M111 rootstock, $29.50

Stowe Fall-Winter. Perham, Aroostook County, ME, about 1862. Extremely hardy all-purpose storage apple. Maine's northernmost Aroostook County has a rich apple tradition but has always been short on winter keepers. It is rare to find a tree that produces storage fruit while at the same time shutting down and going dormant early enough to withstand severe cold. Storage fruit just takes longer to ripen. When I read about Stowe I knew it would be worth locating. I focused my search in the Perham area where it originated and I lucked out. I figured that a medium-large blushed yellow apple still hanging in September would be unusual enough to know when I saw it. I found one tree in Washburn, a couple of miles from Perham in a small orchard by the side of the road. The tender juicy subacid fruit keeps in the root cellar until spring! Annually bearing. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

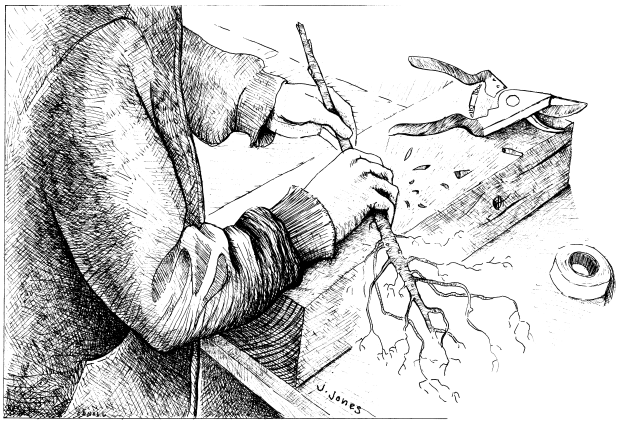
185A Stowe, $29.00

Sweet Sixteen Fall. MN 1630 (MN447 x Northern Spy) U Minn, 1979. Whenever anyone eats a Sweet Sixteen for the first time, you know they will be surprised. Fine-textured crisp flesh contains an astounding unusually complex combination of sweet, nutty and spicy flavors with slight anise essence, sometimes described as cherry, vanilla or even bourbon. I always love Sweet Sixteen season. Truly excellent fresh eating, although it is too sweet for some palates. Round-conic bronze-red medium-sized fruit, striped and washed with rose-red. Annual bearer if thinned. Very hardy moderate-sized vigorous vase-shaped tree grows upright with willowy branches that get loaded with fruit but do not break. Grower-friendly. Reaches its best flavor and texture in northern districts. Keeps till midwinter. One of the wonderful progeny of Frostbite. We hope to introduce more of them! Some resistance to scab. Blooms mid to late season. Z3-6. **ME Grown.**

186A Sweet Sixteen, $29.00

Turley Winesap Fall-Winter. Winesap seedling, Mitchell, IN, 1900. Also called **Turley**. Large round solid-dull–red all-purpose fruit. Crisp, juicy, mildly subacid. Very good baking and cooking as well as good dessert quality. Productive annual bearer. Grown commercially in some districts over the past century. We found this growing about an hour from here at Mt. Nebo Orchard in Mt. Vernon. One of the excellent Winesap progeny introduced over the years. The original seedling was discovered by Joe Burton out in his Lawrence County orchard. Burton was married to Louisa Turley. Their son was Turley Burton. Named for one of them, (or maybe for the in-laws). Not to be confused with Stayman Winesap or with the old classic Winesap itself. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

188A Turley Winesap, $29.00



Grower Profile: Delton Curtis, Curtis Pond Nurseries, Thorndike, ME
In 1995 Delton Curtis began grafting fruit trees for Fedco and has delivered tens of thousands of plants to us since then. Most likely, no matter where you are in the country, you know someone who knows someone who has one of his trees. Over the years, he has taught many grafting workshops for MOFGA's orcharding workshop series. Crabapples are Delton's specialty. His collection contains more than 150 varieties, possibly the most extensive in the state. Along with his wife Becky, Delton maintains several large gardens, an orchard and five ponds. Drop in on a summer day and you're likely to find him puttering around on his tractor and Becky canning the most recent delicious harvest of the season.

Wagener Winter. Unknown parentage. Penn Yann, NY, 1791. Midwinter all-purpose storage variety widely grown in Maine during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Sometimes planted as a filler between large standard trees. The Wageners would fruit young and eventually be removed when the big Baldwins kicked in. Precocious annually bearing tree produces very heavily. The fruit lines up along the branches so thickly you've got to look hard to see any wood. I had to thin two-thirds of the fruit off my tree last summer. Brightly colored medium-sized blocky angular ribbed roundish yellow apples mostly covered with a red blush of dots and stripes. Fine-grained crisp tender very juicy subacid aromatic sprightly flavorful fruit. Naturally small tree. Blooms midseason. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

190A Wagener, $29.00

Wealthy Fall. Cherry crab seedling. Excelsior, MN, 1860. A Maine native of sorts, the seed having come from Bangor. Superb all-purpose fall apple, one of the most famous of all hardy varieties. With its perfect texture and complex flavors, Wealthy is considered to be one of *the* best apples. I agree. Our 99-year-old friend, orchardist Francis Fenton, believes Wealthy—not McIntosh—deserves to be the favorite commercial apple of northern New England. The trees his father planted in Mercer 105 years ago are still going strong. Round-oblate medium-sized fruit is pale greenish-yellow streaked with carmine. About as firm as McIntosh. Tender very juicy sweet subacid flesh is white, often stained red. Good eating and even better cooking. Wonderful pies! Good acid source for fermented cider. Ripens over a long period. Productive moderately vigorous long-lived small to medium-sized tree. Blooms early. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

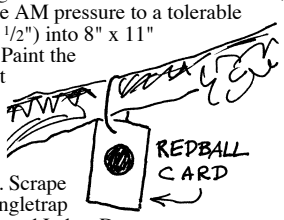
191A Wealthy, $29.00

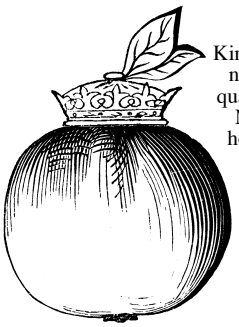
Whitney Crab Late summer. Franklin Grove, IL, before 1869. Small round pinkish-striped fruit ripens in mid-September in central Maine. Considered a crab but we include it here because it is definitely suitable for the kitchen and the lunch box. Excellent pickling and good-to-excellent fresh eating. In a good year the fruit can be better than Chestnut if that's possible to believe. Intense and incredibly sweet. One year at Common Ground Fair, Whitney beat out Cox's Orange Pippin and Chestnut in our taste test. I was amazed. The fruit looks similar to Chestnut, but maybe a little more pink. Eat it or can it up quickly because it doesn't keep long. Hardy, vigorous, heavy bearing. Blooms pink and white. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

192A Whitney Crab, $29.00

Apple Maggot and plywood

Maine grower Don Johnson has been making nifty apple maggot traps for the past few years. We've gotten into doing so ourselves. In small orchards, the traps alone may be enough to reduce the AM pressure to a tolerable level. Here's how: Cut up plywood (3/8" or 1/2") into 8" x 11" rectangles. Drill a hole along the top edge. Paint the plywood bright yellow with a 2–3" red spot (the apple) in the center. Coat with Tangletrap and hang three in each tree in mid-June, positioning the traps at about chest height. Trim away any foliage that might stick to the trap. Check for AM flies. Scrape the traps off now and then and add new Tangletrap when they get too gooky. Remove traps around Labor Day.





Whitney's Russet King Fall. Bud mutation of King of Tompkins County discovered by T.D. Whitney, Stanley, NY, 1919. Large red extremely high-quality dessert fruit. When Dan Bussey and I visited Nick Botner in the winter of 2013, we spent many hours talking apples. Of course we asked him what everyone always wants to know: "What are your favorite dessert apples?" One of the first he mentioned was Whitney's Russet King. Said to be superior even to King of Tompkins County itself. I thought I better take home some scionwood and graft a few. We're delighted to be offering it this year. Thanks to Nick for the scionwood. Z4-8. **ME Grown.**

193A Whitney's Russet King, $29.00

Wickson Fall. (Esopus Spitzenburg x Newtown) Albert Etter intro, Humboldt County, CA, 1944. One of the most flavorful apples we list. Small roundish blushed bright red fruit is crisp, juicy, tart, tangy and spicy. Extremely high in both sugar and acid. Sugar level of the juice is around 25%. Highly recommended for dessert, juice and as a sharp acid source in fermented cider. In September the tree looks like a mass of cherries. The unsung and generally unknown Albert Etter, who introduced Wickson as a champagne variety, was one of the great 20th-century plant breeders. He also introduced Fairfax, usually considered to be the best-flavored of all strawberries. Although possibly lost forever, Fairfax lives on as one of the parents of the much-beloved Sparkle. Wickson bears young, heavily and annually. Blooms midseason. Z4-8. **ME Grown.**

194A Wickson, $29.00

Williams Pride Summer. Co-op 23 [PRI 2845-1=(PRI 1018-101 x NJ50)] PRI Co-op, 1988. Probably the most popular summer apple among the newly developed disease-resistant introductions. It's actually crisp, which is rare for a summer apple. Deep purple roundish-conic irregularly shaped fruit, highlighted with areas of glowing rosy red and covered with a thin bloom. Light cream-colored flesh, with red staining just under the skin, is firm, crisp and very juicy. Has a nice acidic blend of tart and sweet, reminiscent of Fameuse. Long ripening period means you don't have to eat them all at once. Vigorous annually bearing tree with some biennial tendency. Well-shaped with strong right-angled branches that do not require careful training. Highly resistant to fireblight, cedar apple rust and sooty blotch; resistant to powdery mildew. Scab immune. Blooms early-midseason. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

196A Williams Pride, $29.00

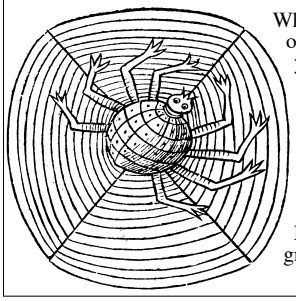
Winekist Summer. Unknown parentage. Carl A Hansen intro, Brookings, SD, 1949. For many years I assumed that this red-fleshed apple was the creation of the Winthrop, ME, fruit explorer and collector, Morris Towle. Dan Bussey's research has straightened that out. It really comes from South Dakota. Medium-sized fruit is wine red with patches and stripes of darker red and very small white dots. The very juicy coarse flesh is almost solid beet red: a real eye popper! Very good—though extremely tart—flavor, makes a great addition to cider or sauce, as well as fresh eating for those who like it tart. Leaves are tomentose (soft and woolly) and have a dark reddish cast. Blossoms are light pink. Tree is a natural semi-dwarf. Blooms midseason. Z3-6. **ME Grown.**

197A Winekist, $29.00

Winthrop Greening Late Summer-Fall. Ichabod Howe Farm, Winthrop, ME, before 1800. Large beautiful oblate all-purpose fruit sporting a red-orange wash, small greenish dots and splashes of russet. Tender rich juicy flesh. Very interesting sweet flavor with medium-low acidity. One of the few Maine apples to receive attention from outside the state over the years. Included in the collection at Tower Hill Botanic Garden. Quite popular throughout central Maine as late as 1920; now all but unknown. Ichabod Howe (1731–1810) laid out many of Winthrop's roads, organized construction of its first church, was an accomplished trapper and hunter, served seven terms as selectman and was, appropriately enough, Winthrop's first orchardist. Blooms late. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

198C Winthrop Greening on M111 rootstock, $29.00

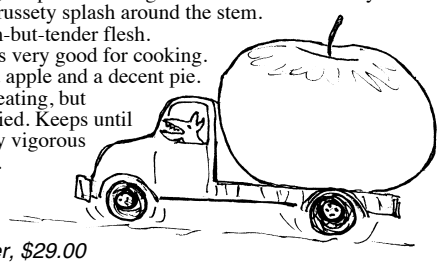
Fruit-growing websites



Whether you use organic or conventional orchard practices, several websites can provide you with a great deal of information about insect and disease pressure, spray timing, frost predictions and a whole lot more. Here are a few of the best:

UMaine Cooperative Extension: umaine.edu/ipm/programs/apple/
Cornell University: fruit.cornell.edu/
University of Vermont: uvm.edu/~fruit/
Holistic Orchard Network: groworganicapples.com/

Wolf River Fall. Alexander seedling. Near Wolf River, WI, 1875. Perhaps the most famous old-time apple in Maine, likely due to its catchy name and its extremely large—even huge—round-oblate fruit. Pale yellow-green skin mostly covered with pink, deep red and bright crimson. Almost always has a vivid yellowish-greenish russety splash around the stem. Creamy-white coarse firm-but-tender flesh. Aromatic subacid flavor is very good for cooking. Makes an excellent baked apple and a decent pie. Not much good for fresh eating, but particularly tasty when dried. Keeps until late fall. Large moderately vigorous productive spreading tree. Excellent scab resistance. Blooms mid to late season Z3-5. **ME Grown.**



200A Wolf River, $29.00

Yarlington Mill Fall. Medium-bittersweet cider apple. Yarlington, near North Cadbury, Somerset, England, 1898. Once common in farm orchards of central Somerset. Steve Wood's other favorite bittersweet. Highly recommended for commercial plantings. (SG 1.052, acidity 2.2g/L, tannin 3.2g/L) Medium-sized yellow conical fruit with a pinkish blush and overspreading darker red stripes. Considered an all-round excellent cider variety: reliable, productive and adaptable to varying conditions. Rich brown low-acid mild lovely aromatic fruity cider, not aggressively tannic. Above-average sugar content. Slow to medium fermentation. You may need to head back the leader in early years to encourage strong laterals. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. Both are **ME Grown.**

202A Yarlington Mill cider apple, $29.00
202C Yarlington Mill cider apple on M111 rootstock, $29.00

Yarlington Mill Fall. Medium-bittersweet cider apple. Same as above with special prices for ten trees. Both are **ME Grown.**

203A Yarlington Mill cider apple, bundle of 10, $260.00
203C Yarlington Mill cider apple on M111, bundle of 10, $260.00

Yellow Bellflower Winter. Burlington, NJ, 18th c. Also known as **Belle-Fleur** or **Yellow Belle-Fleur.** Among the oldest and most famous of American apple varieties, possibly originating as early as the 17th c. Common for generations throughout New York and New England. Magnificent ancient specimens can still be found in old Maine orchards. Very large beautiful conic yellow all-purpose fruit, sometimes with a blush. A.J. Downing described the flesh 150 years ago as "tender, juicy, crisp, sprightly sub-acid…" One of the best of all the cooking apples. Received its name from its beautiful blossoms. Ripens in late fall and keeps until March in the root cellar. Many thanks to Richard Kelly and Rosey Guest for providing us with scionwood from their old trees. Z4-7. **ME Grown.**

204A Yellow Bellflower, $29.00

Zestar Late Summer. (State Fair x MN 1691) U Minn, 1999. Extremely hardy high-quality mid-late summer dessert apple. Medium-sized blocky round yellow-green fruit, partially to completely covered with red stripes and solid red. Juicy and crisp with a well-balanced acid/sweet flavor. Michael Phillips, New Hampshire orchardist and author of *The Apple Grower*, said to me, "When you tree-ripen Zestar, it's fabulous." Northern Maine orchardist Steve Miller added, "That's an impressive apple. From the standpoint of appearance and quality, they're first rate." Keeps in cold storage up to seven weeks. Tree has moderately vigorous upright form; excellent horizontal branching habit makes it easy to train and prune. Precocious and annual-bearing. Blooms early season. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

206A Zestar, $29.00

Maine Heritage Orchard Stewardship Apple The Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA) has established the Maine Heritage Orchard. Located in a renovated gravel pit in Unity, the terraced polyculture orchard will be unlike any orchard anywhere. Under the direction of Fedco's John Bunker, the first 100 apple trees were planted in 2014. Ninety more will be planted in the spring of 2015 with many more to follow. You can join in this effort by becoming an Apple Steward. By purchasing a Heritage Orchard Stewardship Apple, you become the proud keeper of one of the varieties represented in MOFGA's orchard. In the event that the orchard's tree dies, you'll have the backup. We'll send you a rare historic apple tree and a form to fill out. After planting your tree, you return the form with the tree's location to MOFGA. MOFGA will contact you from time to time. $30 from the sale of each tree goes to support the Maine Heritage Orchard (MeHO) project. For more information go to mofga.org. All trees best grown from Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

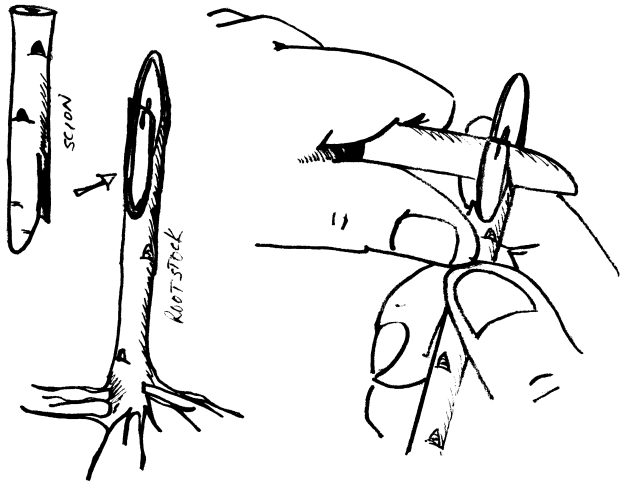
207A Heritage Orchard Stewardship Apple, $50.00 each

Scionwood

We offer scionwood (twigs for grafting) from a wide selection of fruit trees including many listed in this catalog. Price is $5.00 per stick (about 8") plus shipping. This year for the first time we're including our scionwood order online and here on pages 37–38. (In the past, scionwood has been available only through a special paper order form, mailed upon request.) Deadline for ordering scionwood is February 20, 2015. We will ship around March 19. Rootstock can be sent with your scionwood order in late March if you order it from the Scionwood form or select that option online.

We sell scions (scionwood) in two ways. For those grafting up to 3 or 4 trees of a variety, one 8" stick will suffice. Each single 8" stick comes with a small paper ID label. This is how most of our customers purchase scionwood. For commercial orchardists and others grafting large numbers of trees of a particular variety, we also offer scionwood by the foot ($4.50 per foot, minimum order of 10'). In our own nursery work, we are usually able to graft about 6 or 8 trees from one foot of scionwood.

We collect the scionwood in winter and store it at about 40° until shipment in late March. You can graft right away or store it for later use. Stored properly, it will keep quite well for several weeks. It needs to be kept in the fridge or in a cold dark basement, root cellar or shed. Storing scionwood at freezing temps can be okay (we have friends who stick theirs in a snow bank), but the *very* cold temperatures in a freezer will kill it. It will also die if it dries out or is stored without special protection from ripening veggies or fruits. We recommend *triple-bagging* your scionwood in plastic bags, no matter where you store it. There is no need to dampen the scionwood or to insert wet paper towels before bagging it.



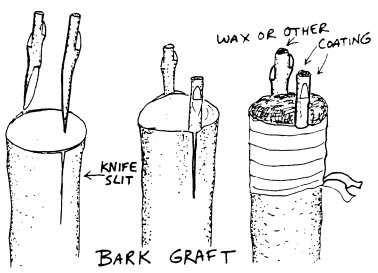
Scions are not trees!

Scions are twigs, not trees. They have no roots and will not grow if you plant them. They are cuttings from branch tips collected in the winter to be grafted in the spring.

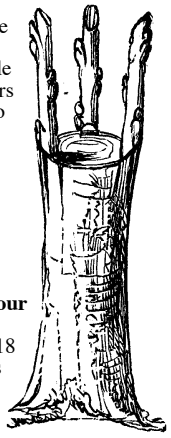
Is grafting easy to do? Yes and no. It is an acquired skill. Experienced grafters often have 100% "take" (success rate) with their grafting. Beginners often have less than 50% take—or even zero. While you can learn to graft from a book or video, we highly recommend the old-fashioned way of learning: find a real person to teach you. MOFGA (Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association) has grafting classes every spring. Other organizations around the country do as well.

There are two general ways to graft. You can **bench graft** by grafting scionwood onto rootstock. Generally we do this indoors in late March or early April. A few weeks later we plant the little trees in our garden or nursery to grow for a couple of years before setting them in the orchard when they're 3–4' tall. You can grow your own rootstock from seed or purchase it. We sell rootstock and can send it with your scionwood order if you select that option. You can also **topwork** scionwood onto existing trees in your yard or orchard. We do our topworking after the trees have begun to show some green growth, usually about May 10 in central Maine.

Can you collect your own scionwood? Of course! Grafting can open up a whole new world for you. You can purchase scionwood from Fedco and several other suppliers around the country. You can trade scionwood like you would baseball cards or recipes. And, best of all, you can collect your own scionwood from your favorite trees. We're always on the lookout for interesting varieties to graft. Before long, you may even become completely obsessed like many of us at Fedco!



Hardy Rootstocks



We consider these to be some of the best rootstocks for home or commercial use. Even without grafting, any of these produces fruit suitable for wildlife. For rootstocks not listed, or for larger calipers or larger quantities, please write for information. We also offer grafting supplies in the Organic Growers Supply section of the Seed catalog or online at **fedcoseeds.com**.

Please note! We do our best to provide 1/4" caliper stock. Because of factors beyond our control (such as weather!) stock may be 3/16–3/8".

Because of the way they are propagated, clonal rootstocks (B118, M111, G11, B9 apples and OHxF97 pear) rarely come with more than a few roots. We recommend planting clonal rootstocks for a year in your garden or nursery before grafting them.

You may order rootstock for shipment around March 18 by using the scionwood order form, now available in this catalog, page 37. Rootstock ordered on the regular order form in this catalog, page 35, will be shipped with the rest of the Tree order in April. Either option is now available online.

Please join us Sunday, March 29, 2015, at the Maine Tree Crop Alliance annual Scionwood Exchange and grafting workshop in the exhibition hall of MOFGA's Common Ground Education Center in Unity. MOFGA also offers a full range of organic orcharding classes; see mofga.org for details.

***Malus* 'Antonovka'** (Apple) Hardy Russian seedling rootstock for full-sized "standard" apple trees. The hardiest rootstock we offer. Space trees 20–30' apart. Z3-5.

232A Malus Antonovka , bundle of 10, $29.00

***Malus* 'Budagovsky 118'** (Apple) [Moscow Pear x (M8 and M9 pollen)] Michurinsk College of Ag, Michurin, Russia. Also called **Bud 118** or **B118**. Semi-dwarf rootstock, similar in size to M111 (about 85–90% of standard). Sometimes referred to as a "semi-standard" or even a standard. Space trees 20–25' apart. More productive than Antonovka, similiar to M111 in that respect. Not considered precocious, but may fruit sooner than trees on Antonovka. Very winter hardy and soil adaptable. Generally not used in commercial orchards due to its large size. Resistant to collar rot. Unknown susceptibility to fireblight. Z3.

233A Malus Budagovsky 118, bundle of 10, $29.00

***Malus* 'M111'** (Apple) [Northern Spy x Merton 793 (Northern Spy x East Malling11)] Collaborative intro of East Malling Research Stn and the John Innes Institute, Merton, England, about 1950. Technically named MM111, the MM refers to Malling and Merton. Very popular semi-dwarf rootstock produces a tree about 65–80% of standard. Space trees 15–20' apart. No staking necessary. Fruits at a slightly younger age than standards. Well-anchored and adaptable to a wide range of soils. Woolly-aphid resistant. Not nearly as long-lived as standards. Hardy to Z4, maybe Z3.

234A Malus M111, bundle of 10, $29.00

***Malus* 'Geneva 11'** (Apple) Also called **G11**. Cornell University intro, NY. Dwarf rootstock produces a tree about a third the size of standard, about halfway between M9 and M26 (a bit larger than Bud 9). Space trees 8–10' apart. Suckers only slightly. Moderately susceptible to woolly aphid. Excellent fireblight resistance. Requires staking, weeding and watering in most locations. Z4/5.

235A Malus Geneva 11, bundle of 10, $33.00

***Malus* 'Budagovsky 9'** (Apple) [M8 x Red Standard (Krasnij Standart)] Also called **Red-leafed Paradise** or **Bud 9**. Michurinsk College of Ag, Michurin, Russia, 1946. Dwarfing rootstock, produces a tree about a quarter the size of a standard tree. Highly productive and precocious with high levels of soluble solids and large fruit size. Very hardy though not as hardy as Antonovka. In most locations, requires weeding, mulching, staking and irrigation. Space trees 5–10' apart. Some resistance to fireblight. Z4.

236A Malus Budagovsky 9, bundle of 10, $29.00

Prunus americana (Plum) Seedling rootstock for American, Japanese or hybrid plums. Also recommended for grafting peaches. Seedling plum produces very decent 1" fruit without grafting. The best pollinator for hybrid plums. (See explanation in plum section on page 26.) Z3.

237A Prunus americana, bundle of 10, $29.00

***Prunus avium* 'Mazzard'** (Cherry) The rootstock we use for grafting sweet and pie cherries. Shallow spreading root system. Longer lived than Maheleb though not as hardy. Does not do well in heavy poorly drained soils. Z4/5.

238A Prunus avium Mazzard, bundle of 10, $29.00

***Prunus cerasifera* 'Myrobalan'** (Plum) Seedling rootstock for European plums. Not recommended for American or hybrid plums. Z3.

239A Prunus cerisifera Myrobalan, bundle of 10, $29.00

***Pyrus* 'OHxF97'** (Pear) (Old Home x Farmingdale 97) Produces a vigorous hardy well-rooted almost-standard-sized tree. Superior to *Pyrus communis* in numerous ways. We use "97s" for our Fedco catalog offerings except where noted. Z3/4.

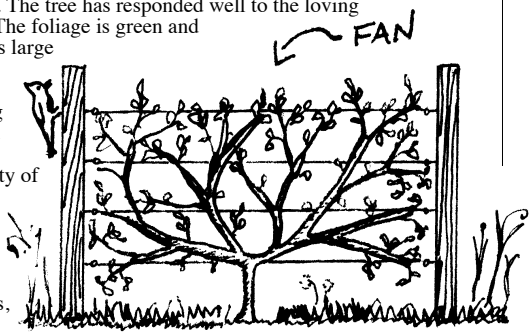
240A Pyrus OHxF97, bundle of 10, $29.00

Espalier [eh-spal-yer, -yey] refers to trees trained to grow on a two-dimensional plane, also the practice of this technique. It's a form of art using live plants to optimize their qualities in a relatively small space. On a flat plane, all parts of the tree are exposed to the sun, which enhances fruit and blossom production. Bending and pruning allows you to direct the plant's energy where you want it. Espalier forms can range from large-scale informal patterns to diminutive highly stylized designs. Thought to date back to the age of the Egyptian pharaohs, espalier became popular with the Romans and medieval fortress and monastery dwellers who found that the warmth from the stone walls created a microclimate, which allowed them to grow fruits that were otherwise too tender for their region. Espaliers were not uncommon in early American gardens. The method continues in Europe today.

We don't see much of this Old World gardening fashion in the States. But if you poke around a bit, you might find a hidden delight where you least expect it. In downtown Belfast, ME, in back of the Consumers Fuel building is an apple tree gracefully sprawled out against the southeast-facing red brick wall. You would never know it is there unless you happen to drive down the unfrequented side street and turn your head at just the right moment. I've been driving past this tree for years. Often, I'll pull in behind the building and stare at it awhile, studying its lines and letting the wonderful feeling I get from looking at its elegant form quietly sink into my bones. In every season, it's a beaut: In spring, it's a wall of blossoms; in summer, it's covered with lush green foliage and clusters and clusters of fruit. Wintertime might be my favorite, when the dark grey branches look like veins sculpted against the masonry. Recently, I decided to knock on the door and find out how it got there, and how it *stays* there.

John Holmes is the steward of this lovely tree. He's been caring for it since the '80s. Every few years, he looks at the new growth, selects the branches he wants to keep, pins them down to the mortar, and prunes away the rest. Pruning happens whenever there is a mechanized man lift on site—this is a full-sized standard tree with branches that want to reach up over the top of the two-story building!

And how did the tree get there? This tree is a chance seedling—a wild volunteer—that sprouted next to the old foundation window. Mr. Holmes began tending the tree when it was young, inspired by a wall of espaliered trees he saw in France. The tree has responded well to the loving care he has provided. The foliage is green and profuse and it produces large quantities of smallish not-too-unpalatable apples. It's an amazing combination of art and function. When I commented on the rarity of espaliered trees like this one in our country, Mr. Holmes responded, "Many people want instant gratification these days, and these things take time."



Thinking about trying this at home? Consider the points below, do some further research, and then go for it. You'll want a detailed handbook to guide you through the steps. (See Additional Resources below.)

Why espalier? To make good use of vertical space when you have limited room to expand, to create a privacy screen, divide areas of your yard, or because you love the way it looks.

What kind of plants can I use? Tree fruits like apple, pear, peach, apricot and plum; ornamentals like flowering quince, roses, forsythia. Across the south of France, it seems like every little stone train station has espaliered roses growing against the wall. Experiment and see what works for you.

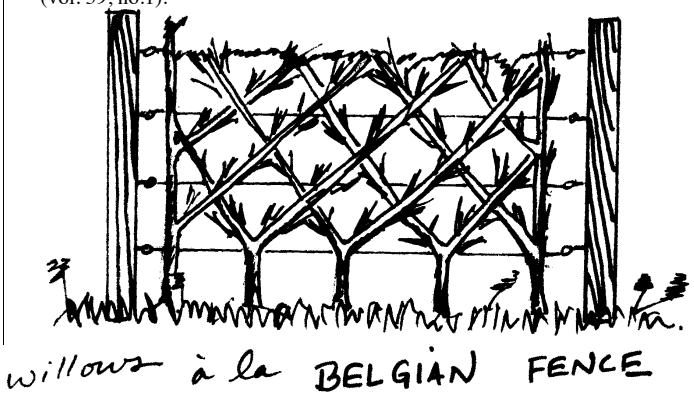
Does rootstock matter? Espalier forces the branches of the tree to grow horizontally. This directs the energy into creating fruit-bearing spurs. Dwarf and semi-dwarf trees accept this treatment a little better; they don't want to grow over the top of the building. It's hard to keep standard-sized trees small and because they want to grow tall, they do better as larger structured espaliers, like the one in Belfast. However, we have friends who are getting fruit on low-growing standard trees. It's possible, but your yields may be smaller.

Are certain apple varieties better than others? Most of our apple varieties will work in espalier. Some sources claim you need spur-bearing types rather than tip-bearing. Don't worry about this. Most apples are spur-bearing. You may want to think about whether the tree is an annual or a biennial bearer. If you have limited space, you may want a tree that fruits every year.

Supporting the espalier: If you don't live in a stone castle or have a brick wall, you'll need to create a support system for your espalier trees. This can still be against a building but with a trellis that keeps the plant away from the wall, to allow for airflow and prevent problems like rotting of your wood shingles. You will need wood or metal supports and sturdy wire, whether you leave the support in place permanently or remove it after the trees have matured, creating a freestanding fence. We built a wooden trellis on the south wall of our wood-shingled cottage for grapevines, which provide great window shade in summer. Keep in mind that certain vining plants, like grapes, can be a nuisance to shingles or to mortar in brick walls.

How difficult is espalier? Simple informal patterns will be easier to manage than complicated ones. Slow-growing plants might be preferable while fast-growing types will keep you on your toes. Early training of the plant is critical and most intensive in the first 3–6 years. After that, it's about maintenance. Pruning will become an extended-season activity, not just a once-a-year duty. However, in cool climes, you still want to avoid late-summer pruning. Planting instructions and care are per usual, as outlined in the beginning of the catalog.

Additional Resources These books provide easy-to-follow instructions and all the details you need to get started on your espalier: *Hedges, Screens and Espaliers* by Susan Chamberlain, and *Living Fences: A Gardener's Guide to Hedges, Vines & Espaliers* by Ogden Tanner. Of course, there are endless resources online with photos to inspire you. Check out Lee Reich's 1999 *Arnoldia* article "Fruiting Espaliers: A Fusion of Art and Science" (vol. 59, no.1).



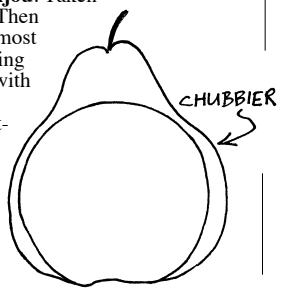
Pears *Pyrus communis* are native to temperate Europe and Asia and can grow up to 100' tall in the wild. Many pear varieties are hardy in New England but tend to take longer to come into bearing than apples. Farther south, pears tend to bear annually. However, in Maine, where they are approaching their northern limit and perhaps because of our harsher climate, some varieties tend to bear biennially. Pick fruit when green and ripen it on the shelf. Or, for optimal eating, try Ed Fackler's method: "…when fruits exhibit slight color changes, begin to test pressure (using your thumb) near the stem. When there is a slight 'give,' pick all the fruit, store at or near 35° for 7 or more days. Then remove them as needed, allow them to sit at room temps for 2–4 days which allows them to ripen to peak flavor."

Pear blossoms are less attractive to bees than apple blossoms, so pears should be planted closer together to ensure pollination. Although some pears appear to be self-pollinating, **we recommend a second variety for pollination**. Bloom dates for all varieties are similar.

This year some of our pears are on OHxF333, a semi-dwarfing rootstock whose trees reach about 15' at maturity. Plant semi-dwarfs 10–15' apart. If not otherwise noted, pears are on OHxF97 and will reach approximately 25' at maturity; plant those 15–20' apart. (3-6' trees)

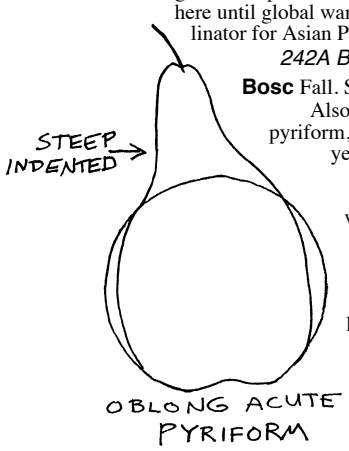
Anjou Fall. Ancient variety probably originating near Angers, France, long before 1800. Also called **Beurre d'Anjou** or **D'Anjou**. Taken from France to England more than 200 years ago. Then brought to New England around 1840. One of the most famous of all "American" dessert pears. Mild melting white fine-textured buttery flesh, sweet and spicy with a delicate aroma. Medium-large oblong-obovate-pyriform fruit. Yellow-green skin with some russeting and a bit of a blush. Stores into midwinter, reaching best quality after storage. Vigorous large tree. Moderate resistance to fireblight. Z4-5.

241A Anjou, $29.00



Bartlett Late Summer. Seedling found in Aldermaston, England. Introduced to the U.S. in the late 1700s. Also known as **Williams' Bon Chrétien**. Most widely planted and well known of all pears, accounting for 75% of the U.S. commercial crop. Adaptable to many climates and soils. Large greenish-yellow classic oblong obtuse-pyriform fruit; very good quality. Full reliable annual crops. Large vigorous easy-to-grow long-lived tree bears young. I used to think you couldn't grow Bartlett in central Maine, but I've changed my mind. Now I recommend it as a good choice south of Bangor. Susceptible to fireblight, though that won't be up here until global warming catches up with us. Good pollinator for Asian Pears. **Will not pollinate Seckel.** Z4.

242A Bartlett, $29.00

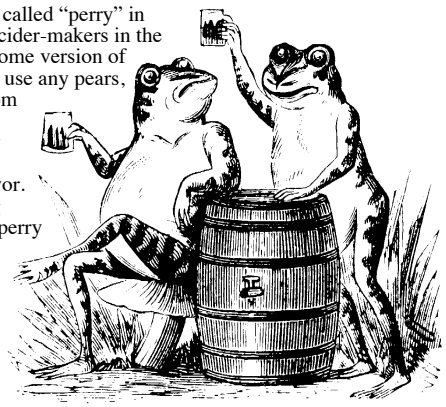


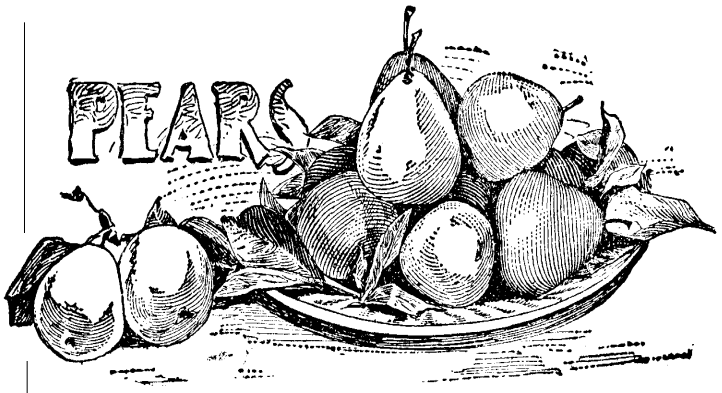
Bosc Fall. Seedling in Lourain, Belgium, 1807. Also called **Beurre Bosc**. Oblong acute-pyriform, or large and long-necked; dark rich yellow covered with cinnamon-brown russet. Distinctive sweet rich spicy buttery flavor. Melting juicy tender white flesh has smooth texture and a pleasing aroma. Somewhat gritty around the core. Good pollinator. Large vigorous upright spreading tree bears huge crops annually. A longtime favorite throughout central Maine. Z4.

243A Bosc, $29.00

Perry Pears

High-quality fermented "cider" can be made from pears, traditionally called "perry" in parts of England. Many cider-makers in the States are now making some version of perry. Although you can use any pears, the true stuff is made from specific varieties. These mostly small bitter perry pears give the drink its distinctive body and flavor. We have been collecting scionwood and grafting perry pear trees to offer in the catalog, starting with several varieties next year. We are also doing custom grafting orders for those interested in starting perry orchards. If you would like more information about all that, please be in touch: john@fedcoseeds.com.





Columbia Fall. Originated on the Casser farm, Westchester County, NY, about 1835. Not a fine dessert pear, but excellent for canning or sauce. Large yellowish-green–skinned oblong obovate-pyriform fruit has yellowish-white granular sweet juicy flesh. Similar in appearance to Bartlett. Large vigorous spreading productive tree fruits very heavily every other year. Our scionwood comes from an old tree in the front yard of the Palermo Historical Society. Year-round it's a majestic sight, especially in fruit. Most years people collect all the fruit and put it to good use; Fedco's Seth Yentes travels an hour to fill his truck with the pears. Z4. **ME Grown**.

244A Columbia, $29.00

Harrow Sweet Fall. HW 609 (Bartlett x Purdue 80-51) Ag Canada Research Stn, Harrow, Ontario, 1980. High-quality medium-large pyriform dessert fruit ripens about three weeks after Bartlett. Yellow with a red blush. White fleshed, juicy, sweet and flavorful. Medium-sized tree, upright, spreading, productive and precocious. Fruit will keep a couple of months in cold storage. Will cross-pollinate with Bartlett. Fireblight resistant. Z4.

248A Harrow Sweet, $29.00

Luscious Early Fall. SD E31 x Ewart. SD State U, 1967. One of the few recent pear introductions that deserves a place in the home orchard. Produces annual crops of delicious medium-sized oblong obovate-pyriform fruit. Bears so heavily that it's apt to break branches. The soft fine extra-juicy off-white flesh is sweet and flavorful with almost no grit cells. Thin yellowish skin is covered with small tan dots. Anecdotal evidence suggests that it may crop best when grown near Bartlett or one of the Asian pears. Although some literature warns that Luscious itself is a poor pollinator, we've been happy to have it at our place. Z3.

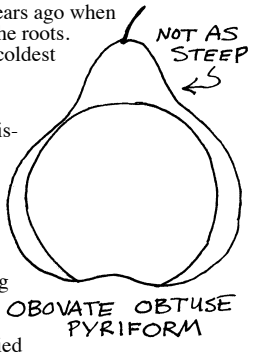
250E Luscious on OHxF333 rootstock, $29.00

Nova Late Summer. Hammond, NY. Discovered and introduced by Bill MacKentley of St Lawrence Nurseries, Potsdam, NY. Large yellow roundish dessert pear with melting juicy flesh. Chris Blanchard's favorite pear. For decades he and Liz Lauer have been trialing a wide assortment of pears a few hours north of here in Penobscot County. He described it to me as "large with smooth creamy texture and a thin skin. Wonderful dessert pear. Also the best canning of our 12–14 varieties." Holds its shape in the jar. Very hardy, though from our trials in northern Aroostook County, not quite as hardy as Patten. Appears to be fireblight and scab free. Z3. **ME Grown**.

252A Nova Pear, $29.00

Patten Late Summer. Orel 15 x Anjou. CG Patten intro, Iowa St U, 1922. The best-quality large hardy pear available. Very good fresh eating with sweet "high flavor." Fine-grained soft flesh has minimal grit cells. Vaguely reminiscent of Bosc in size and shape. Good canning pear. Tree is extremely adaptable, growing all over the Northeast. Long willowy branches very flexible, won't break even under the weight of its heavy crops. Scab resistant. A good pollinator for other varieties. Fared incredibly well during the cold "test winter" several years ago when hundreds of northern Maine pear trees died to the roots. Extremely hardy and highly recommended for coldest districts. Z3. **ME Grown**.

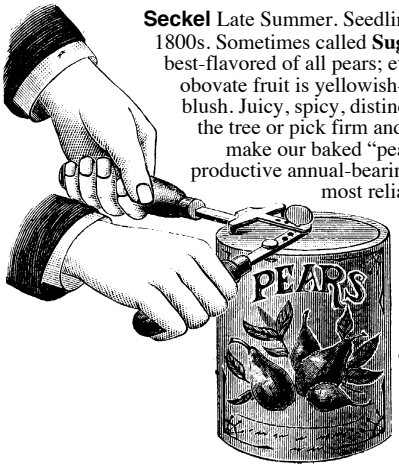
253A Patten, $29.00



Red Clapp's Favorite Mid-Late Summer. Discovered by Adrian Kalle, South Haven, MI, in 1939 and introduced by Stark Brothers Nursery, Louisiana, MO, 1956. Also called **Kalle** or **Starkrimson**. Red-skinned sport (mutation) of the classic New England heirloom dessert pear Clapp's Favorite. Medium-firm fine-textured with granular center, very juicy melting sweet fruit with that absolutely perfect "pear flavor" for fresh eating. Medium-large bright red obovate-obtuse-pyriform fruit. (Round-bodied with a short neck.) Large long-lived upright very productive annual bearer. Use them up quick: they don't keep. Z4.

254A Red Clapp's Favorite, $29.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nursuries

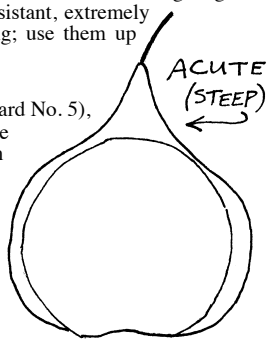


Seckel Late Summer. Seedling near Philadelphia, PA, early 1800s. Sometimes called **Sugar Pear**. Often considered the best-flavored of all pears; even the skin is delicious. Small obovate fruit is yellowish-brown russeted with slight red blush. Juicy, spicy, distinctive and aromatic. Eat ripe off the tree or pick firm and ripen later. We use Seckels to make our baked "pear-sauce." It's wonderful. Very productive annual-bearing large tree, easy to grow. *The* most reliably bearing fruit tree we have. Scab and fireblight resistant. **Will not pollinate Bartlett.** Z4.

255A Seckel, $29.00

Stacyville Late Summer. Unknown origin. Stacyville, ME. Medium-sized obovate obtuse-pyriform pears are light yellow with an orange to greyish-red blush. The sweet fruit has a delicious citrusy aftertaste. Although the fruit is good fresh eating, we prefer to use it as a cooking pear. Precocious and productive. Our tree gives us large crops most years. Long ago, friends told me about the pear and insisted that I make the trip to Stacyville in southern Aroostook County. When I finally saw it myself, I thought that the 50' tall vase-shaped tree was an elm. That tree, held together with cables, was extremely old but still bearing huge crops. Appears to be self-pollinating. Disease resistant, extremely hardy and very vigorous. Does not keep for long; use them up quickly! Rare. Z3. **ME Grown.**

256A Stacyville, $29.00

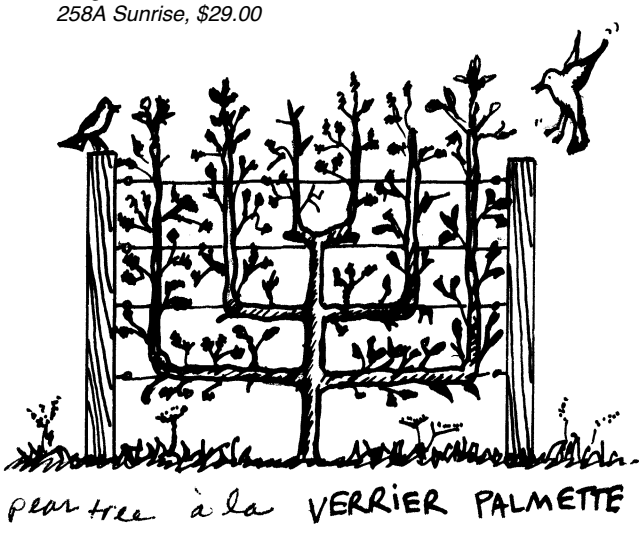


Summercrisp Midsummer. MN N33201 (Gaspard No. 5), unknown parentage. U Minn, 1986. Brought to the Minnesota Horticultural Research Station by John Gaspard in 1933. Large obovate acute-pyriform very sweet dessert and canning pear with green skin and a red blush. Ripens in August in Maine. Eat them fresh crisp, can them in quarters, and juice the rest. Precocious, annually bearing tree, medium-sized with typically conic habit. Considered the hardiest variety in the Minnesota collection. Free from fireblight. Z3.

257E Summercrisp on OHxF333 rootstock, $29.00

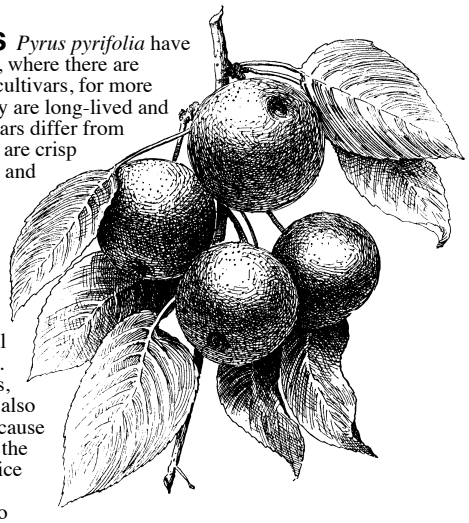
Sunrise Summer. OHUS 66170-047. (NJ5001710820 x US 446). Ohio Ag Res Stn, Wooster, OH, and USDA intro, 2006. Early season dessert pear of very high quality. Sweet to somewhat subacid favor. Creamy white buttery moderately juicy flesh with very little grit content. Oblong-pyriform Bartlett-sized light yellow fruit, usually with a reddish blush and sometimes with a bit of russet tossed in. Bartlett, Seckel and Comice all appear in its pedigree. Stores a few weeks in the fridge, especially good for an early pear. Good fireblight resistance along with some resistance to pear scab. Z4-5.

258A Sunrise, $29.00



Pears are generally easy to grow in New England. One challenge growers sometimes face is **pear leaf blister mites**. The microscopic mites live in the leaf tissue and overwinter in the buds. You know you've got them if your pear leaves are disfigured by small green-yellow-brown or pink blistery bumps. You'll see them if you have them. Two organic controls are an oil and lime sulfur spray in Oct.–Nov. and a dormant oil spray in the spring just before the buds open.

Asian Pears



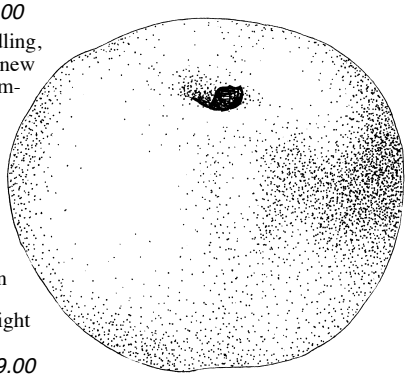
Pyrus pyrifolia have been grown in China, where there are thousands of named cultivars, for more than 2000 years. They are long-lived and bear young. Asian pears differ from European pears: they are crisp and very juicy, sweet and mild with a nutty background, and are roundish in shape. **Although partly self-fruitful, pollinators are recommended.** The varieties we offer will pollinate one another. Some European pears, notably Bartlett, will also act as pollinators. Because they set heavily, thin the crop once or even twice during the first two months after bloom to ensure large fruit. Unlike European pears, they should be tree-ripened. When the seeds are black, the pears are ready to pick. They ripen in late summer and keep several weeks with refrigeration. Cultural requirements are similar to European pears. We were surprised and pleased at how well our trees here in central Maine fared after this past winter. Very little dieback. Although there are usually considered a Zone 5 plant, maybe they can squeak by in Zone 4 after all. (3-6' trees)

Hosui Late Summer. [Ri-14 (Kikusui x Yakumo) x Yakumo] National Horticultural Research Station, Tsukuba, Japan, 1972. Standard commercial variety. Large round-oblate long-stemmed fruit with medium-thick skin covered with glowing yellow-orange-golden brown russet and numerous light-russet dots. Firm crisp fine-textured juicy mild subacid yet sweet rich-flavored white to off-white flesh is considered by some to be the best-flavored of all Asian pears. Will store for a month. *Hosui* literally means 'much water.' Medium-sized very vigorous productive tree. Ours only showed minimal dieback last winter. Susceptible to fireblight. Z5.

265A Hosui, $29.00

Kosui Late Summer. Kikusui x Wasekozo. Natl Hort Res Stn, Tsukuba, Japan, 1959. Crisp, juicy and very sweet. Medium-sized fruit is mostly covered with yellow-golden-brown russet. Early ripening, two weeks before Hosui, and keeps for about two months. *Kosui* means 'good water.' Medium-sized vigorous spreading tree. Some resistance to scab. Z4/5.

266A Kosui , $29.00



Shinko Fall. Nijisseiki seedling, Japan, 1941. *Shinko* means 'new success' in Japanese. Medium-large lumpy round brownish russeted fruit. Yellowish flesh is sweet, crisp and juicy, with very good flavor. Ripens late and stores up to three months. Moderately vigorous precocious annually bearing tree. In addition to the other Asian pears, Bartlett is also a good pollinator for Shinko. Fireblight resistant. Z5.

267A Shinko , $29.00

Shinsui Summer. Kikusi x Kimizukawase. Hort Res Stn, Yatabe, Japan, 1967. Medium-sized round-oblate yellowish-brown russetted fruit with crisp juicy fine-textured very sweet flesh. Excellent fresh eating. Not as firm as other Asians. One of the earliest to ripen each year. Pennsylvania grower and Asian pear aficionado Ike Kirschner considers this a great pear. Keeps about 6 weeks in refrigeration. *Shinsui* is translated as 'new water,' 'adoration,' 'inundation' and more. It is also the pseudonym of one of Japan's most famous 20th-century artists, Ito Shinsui (1888-1972). Even if you don't know his name, you will likely recognize his iconic colorful prints of young women. Z5/6.

268A Shinsui, $29.00

Yoinashi Fall. Fowler Nurseries intro, Newcastle, CA, about 1987. Large conic light brown russeted fruit. Fine-textured off-white flesh is crisp, juicy, aromatic and sweet. Means 'good pear' in Japanese. It is a good variety! When I talked to one of the folks at Fowler Nurseries, she described it as having "a little bit of a zip" to it. Harvest after Hosui and before Shinko. Upright medium-vigorous tree. Good pollinators include other Asian pears and Seckel. Moderate tolerance to fireblight. Z5.

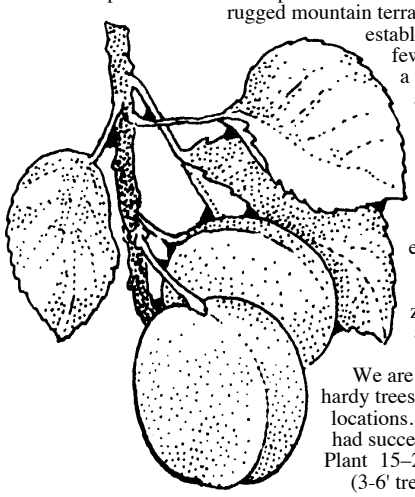
269A Yoinashi, $29.00

Stone Fruits

Prunus spp. are widely cultivated around the world and adaptable to most of New England. Not highly particular as to soils. **Clingstone** means the fruit's flesh clings to the pit (or stone) and a **freestone** pit drops away from the flesh.

Apricots

P. armeniaca are native to central Asia, cultivated there for about 4000 years. Downeast (coastal) Maine apricot grower and good friend Richard "Ozzie" Ossolinski wrote, "From what I saw during a recent road trip through the Stans, apricot 'orchards' hardly seem necessary....Wild trees are as prevalent there as spruces are here in Maine. Even in the most rugged mountain terrain apricot trees seem to have established themselves wherever a few teaspoons of soil exist near a trickle of water: really pretty amazing." The trees are only marginally adaptable to northern New England. Because their early blossoms are sensitive to cold spring weather, they are often planted with northern exposures to delay blooming. Large crops are possible but uncommon in Maine. The zone rating should be viewed as an approximation because much depends on your site. We are on the lookout for reports of hardy trees in Maine and other northern locations. Please let us know if you've had success.



Plant 15–20' apart. **Self-pollinating**. (3-6' trees)

Brookcot Summer. BF #7-3. *P. mandschurica* seedling. Strathmore, Alberta. Small fruit with good flavor though not as firm as Westcot. Consistently productive. Along with Debbie's Gold and Westcot, highly recommended for coldest districts where apricots have consistently failed. Blooms later than both Debbie's Gold and Westcot. This may be an additional plus, as one of all apricots' fatal flaws is early blooming. Extremely hardy. Has survived –48°. Upright tree form. Self-fruitful. Probably Zone 3.

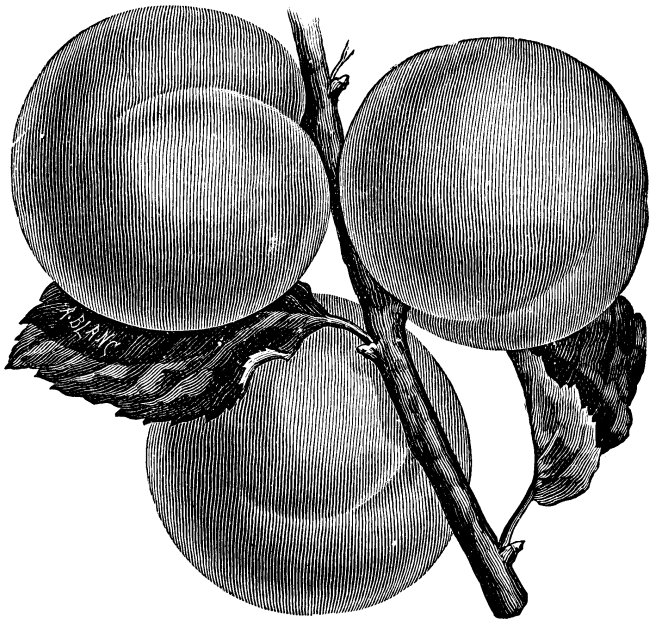
273A Brookcot, $29.00

Debbie's Gold Summer. *P. a. sibirica* seedling. Aubin Nurseries, Carman, Manitoba, about 1980. Pale orange-yellow slightly flattened small fruit. Annual bearer. Similar to Westcot but a bit sweeeter. Vigorous somewhat upright and moderately productive tree. Blooms later and fruits later than Westcot. While not as hardy as Westcot, still extremely hardy and highly recommended for coldest districts. Probably Z3.

274A Debbie's Gold, $29.00

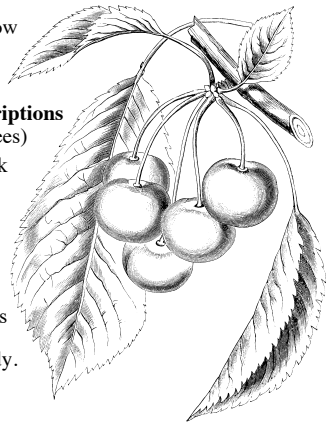
Westcot Summer. Scout x McClure. Introduced by Les Kerr, Agriculture Canada, Morden, Manitoba, 1982. Small roundish fruit, yellow-orange with a red blush. Smooth juicy freestone flesh with a mild sweet flavor. Firmer than Debbie's Gold. Vigorous upright spreading productive tree. Blooms a day earlier and fruits before Debbie's Gold. Probably hardiest of the apricots we're offering this year. Pits also the largest! Z3.

275A Westcot, $29.00



Sweet Cherries

P. avium are generally not hardy in Maine. Most grow into very large trees. We are currently testing some of the hardiest varieties and hope to have more of them available in upcoming years. **See descriptions for pollination requirements.** (3-6' trees)



BlackGold Summer. NY 13791 (Stark Gold x Stella) NY Station, 2001. Also known as **Ridgewood**. A new and highly admired sweet cherry. Large beautiful glossy dark red heart-shaped sweet fruit of very high quality. Upright spreading growth habit. Much more adapted to eastern U.S. conditions than Bing cherry and other "western cherries." Late blooming and very hardy. Survived –33° in SW Minnesota. Self-pollinating. Disease and crack resistant. Z4.

278A BlackGold, $29.00

Leningrad Summer. Possibly Black Eagle x Black Tatar. Russia. May also be known as **Leningrad Black**. In our ongoing effort to locate and offer the best of the hardy sweet cherries, we have been very impressed with Leningrad. Our old friend Mark Fulford, fruit grower, explorer and tester, originally brought this Russian variety to our attention. Very good-quality dark red fruit. Upright vigorous tree. The trees have survived –30° with minimal winterkill in our central Maine test plots. Requires a second variety, such as Royalton, for pollination. Maybe worth a try in Zone 4 and certainly in Zone 5. **ME Grown.**

279A Leningrad, $29.00

Royalton Summer. NY 11390 (NY1725 x open pollinated) NY State Ag Exp Stn, Geneva, NY, 1975. Very high-quality large purple-black sweet fruit. Very vigorous upright tree form. Sweet cherry trees can be large! Extremely tolerant to fruit cracking. An excellent pollinator for other sweet cherries. Can be slow to come into bearing. Z4.

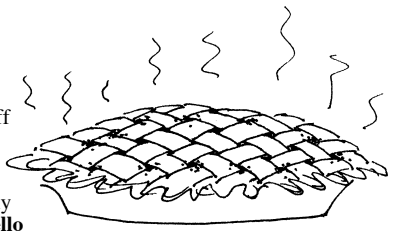
280A Royalton, $29.00

Stella Midsummer. 2C-27-19 (Lambert x John Innes Sdlg. 2420) Canadian Dept of Ag Research Stn, Summerland, BC, 1968. The first hardy good-quality self-fertile sweet cherry. Large heart-shaped black-skinned fruit has juicy medium-firm black flesh. May be a disappointment to sweet cherry aficionados from the Northwest but could be like a dream come true for orchardists living in the North. Although the fruit buds are relatively tender, we've received encouraging reports that the tree is doing well in Minnesota. However, ours died to the ground last winter. Upright spreading vigorous productive tree will grow to 25–30'. Self-pollinating, also pollinates other sweet cherries. Z5.

281A Stella, $29.00

Pie Cherries

P. cerasus are called "sour," but they're delicious enough to eat right off the tree. They fruit in early to midsummer and don't mind heavy soil. They are especially good in pies. They are generally divided into two groups: **Morello** types have dark red spherical fruit, dark juice and relatively small compact trees. **Montmorency** (or Amarelle) types have light red slightly flattened fruit, clear juice and medium-sized somewhat open trees.



Pie cherries are significantly hardier than sweet cherries but can be frustrating to grow. Although the trees are fully hardy in Zone 3, flower buds may be damaged in colder winters. Some growers in Maine have reported large harvests only to have their trees die unexpectedly a year or two later. We regularly hear reports of excellent crops, so we know it can be done. We are currently testing several promising varieties including some local heirloom discoveries. Our hope is to find pie cherries that will be consistently healthy and productive. We are very interested in your successes and failures. If you have had experiences you think might be useful to others, please be in touch. **Pie cherries are self-pollinating, and do not require another variety for pollination**. Plant 15-20' apart. (3-6' trees)

For *P.* x *kerrasis*, Carmine Jewel dwarf sour cherry, see p. 52.

English Morello Summer. Netherlands or Germany, before 1860. Sometimes called **Grosse Cerise a Ratafia**, **Grosse Lang Lothkirsche**, **Griotte du Nord**, **Morris** and **Colorado Morello**. Very dark red-black skin. Dark red flesh and juice. Excellent culinary cherry, recommended for pies and all other cookery. Ripens late, after Montmorency. Distinctive small roundish tree with drooping branches. Brown rot resistant. One of the most famous of all pie cherries. Despite the name we know it by, it is thought to have originated on the Continent, eventually finding its way to England and then to North America. Z4/5.

284A English Morello, $29.00

Evans Mid-Late Summer. Unknown parentage. Edmonton, Alberta. Also called **Bali**. Rescued from obscurity in 1976 by Dr. Ieuan Evans for whom it was named. Thought to have been brought to Alberta by early settlers from Minnesota. Known in the Edmonton area at least back to 1923 but only recently gaining widespread attention. Hardiness reports are inconsistent, but our own Aroostook County trials are proving it to be hardier than Meteor, Montmorency or North Star. Cropping and fruit-quality reports are also inconsistent. Some extremely positive and others not so. There is also debate about the differences between grafted trees and "own root" specimens usually started by tissue culture. We are now doing side-by-side trials in four Maine locations to see if we can sort that all out. Large crops of Morello-type fruit are possible and the fruit is considered to be excellent for eating, jams, jellies, pies, dark red juice and wine. Naturally dwarf tree, tolerant of a wide range of soils, although prefers light fertile soils. Z3.

285A Evans, $29.00

Garfield Plantation Summer. Unknown origin. Garfield Plantation, ME. Heirloom pie cherry grown for generations on an Aroostook County farm. One of our most promising finds in our search for varieties that really do produce. In the spring of '09 trees in northern Maine flowered and fruited after –44°. Although the original tree is long gone, it lives on in the form of innumerable young trees that have suckered up for 100' or more behind the farm along the edge of the ubiquitous potato field. You could keep it to a single tree yourself by snipping off any suckers. Hardy, disease resistant, productive and extremely long-lived. Recommended for trial in all areas of northern New England. Z3. **ME Grown** (2-6')

286A Garfield Plantation, $29.00

Mesabi Summer. Bing x chance seedling. (Sweet x sour cherry) Duluth, MN, 1964. Red skin and lighter red flesh with clear juice. Considered to be a sour cherry, but sweeter flesh than other pie cherries. Recommended for sauce and pies. Will grow to about 10–14'. We became very curious about Mesabi when we heard reports of 20-year-old trees in Maine remaining healthy and productive. About ten years ago we began a trial on our farm. Our tree showed no dieback at all after last winter and is fruiting this summer. It has also remained entirely disease free. Z4. **ME Grown.**

287A Mesabi, $29.00

Montmorency Summer. Seedling of Cerise Hâtive or Cerise Commune. Montmorency Valley, France, before 1600. Introduced to the U.S. about 1830. The most famous of all pie cherries. Not widely grown in Europe or Russia but long the standard of excellence in the U.S. Firm-fleshed bright red fruit makes a clear light pink juice. Surprisingly hardy, though not as hardy as Garfield Plantation or Evans. Our Aroostook County test orchard trees fare better than Meteor, but just barely. Should do really well from central Maine south. Appears to be resistant to brown rot. Vigorous productive medium-sized upright-spreading tree tolerates a variety of soils. Parent of Meteor. Z3/4.

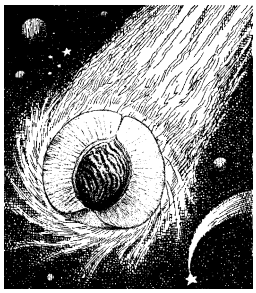
288A Montmorency, $29.00

Peaches *P. persica* Northern New England peach trees can do very well. They bear young and so heavily that they may break branches if unthinned or unsupported. Trees may also die unexpectedly at any age. Up here peach trees took a big hit last winter. Some of the trees out in the open at our place died to the ground. The survivors got pretty beat up. However, the young espaliered peach trees planted against the south side of our house look great. (See Espaliers page 21.)

Peaches are usually unaffected by pests or diseases in northern areas, the occasional exception being **peach leaf curl**. PLC is not a fatal problem but does need to be controlled if you get hit with it. Look for crinkled or puckered foliage in spring. Remove affected leaves and compost them. Spray the tree early the following spring while it is still dormant (before any buds open!) with lime sulfur or copper. Onion, garlic or horsetail spray while leafed-out may also be effective.

Peaches fruit on last year's growth! Prune your peach trees in May, once they leaf out. Trim off any dead branches and leave most or all of the live wood. Never prune off all your new growth. If your tree becomes leggy, make a few bold cuts back to a vigorous branch closer to the trunk. That will promote even fruiting throughout your tree.

Peach trees do not need a second tree for pollination. Plant 15-20' apart. (3-6' trees)



Blushingstar Late. Fruit Acres intro, Coloma, MI. Very new white-fleshed release from the Stellar Peach breeding program in Michigan. Very good-quality fresh eating. The flesh is white, tinged with pink, turning red at the pit. Completely freestone and non-browning when cut. Ripens 20 days after Redhaven. Tree is hardy, open-growing and resistant to bacterial spot. We've read reports of hardiness equal to Red Haven. The variety is worth trialing in much of Maine. Possibly Zone 4.

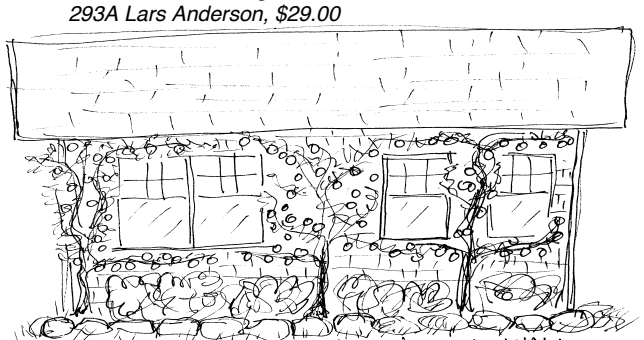
291A Blushingstar, $29.00

Contender Late. NCT 544 (Winblo x complex parentage of North Carolina selections) DJ Werner, JR Ballington and DF Ritchie intro, Ag Experiment Stn, Raleigh, NC, 1988. A fairly new high-quality hardy variety worth trialing in the North. Large round bright red and yellow freestone fruit with a slightly raised suture. Firm melting aromatic yellow flesh. Growth habit similar to Red Haven, ripens 3 weeks later. Resistant to leaf spot. Because it blooms quite late, it might escape late spring frosts. Z4/5.

292A Contender, $29.00

Lars Anderson Early. Uncertain origin. Pastor Chuck Orchards, Cushing, ME. Large juicy sweet yellow-fleshed freestone fruit. Lars Anderson's son-in-law Waite Maclin (AKA Pastor Chuck) brought this tree to our attention several years ago. Waite described the fruit to me as "tasting just like a peach should taste. When I give them away to friends and neighbors they think the peaches have been purchased in the South." Lars Anderson planted the tree on the Maine coast about 1965. He died in 1981 but the family continued to maintain the peach, even after a huge 1982 nor'easter blew the tree to the ground and split it in half. After the old tree finally succumbed in 2009 Waite sent us a monogrammed "slice" of trunk which we display on our mantle. Currently being tested in Zone 4, but for now, it should be considered a Zone 5 plant. **ME Grown.**

293A Lars Anderson, $29.00



Peach Pit Liqueur

Ever wonder what to do with all those peach pits left over from making jam, fruit leather, brandied peaches, peach wine, cobbler, pie, shortcake and canned peaches? Try peach liqueur—it's very easy to make.

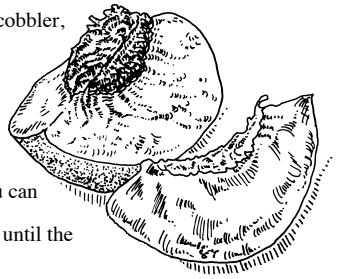
Collect three cups of pits. You can store them for a couple of days if you need to, but after that they start to lose flavor. Using a stiff vegetable brush or the tip of a pointed knife, scrape off the strings and peach bits clinging to the pit.

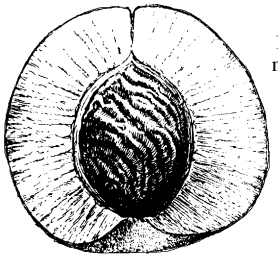
Place the pits in a quart mason jar, and top off the jar with unflavored vodka. Tighten on the lid. Leave it on your kitchen counter so you will remember to shake it every day for the next 40 days until it is ready.

Decant the vodka off the pits and set the pits aside. Take a whiff of the vodka and have a little taste. You might be surprised that the flavor is nothing like peaches—instead the vodka is almond flavored. Now you have a choice: you can bottle it as is, or if you prefer a sweeter liqueur that tastes like amaretto, make a simple syrup and add it to the vodka. You can also add vanilla or a cinnamon stick. Experiment to see what suits your taste.

And don't throw out those used peach pits yet. You can keep covering them with vodka and make liqueur all year long until the next harvest of peaches.

–Cammy Watts





Madison Late. Ideal x Red Haven. VA Stn, 1963. A fine peach for the North, with hardiness similar to Red Haven (though it ripens 3 weeks later). Medium-large fruit with bright orange skin and bright red blush. Orange-yellow firm fine-textured juicy flesh with excellent very sweet rich peach flavor. Very good quality. Skin peels easily. Freestone, excellent canner. Very productive tree. Exceptional tolerance to blossom-season frost. Z5.

294A Madison, $29.00

Red Haven Early-Mid. (Halehaven x Kalhaven) MI Ag Exp Stn, 1940. Considered hardy, but not as hardy as Reliance. Medium-sized round fruit with beautiful red and golden-yellow skin and sweet firm fine-textured yellow flesh. Non-browning. Excellent for eating, freezing, canning, shipping. Probably the best-flavored peach we offer; also the world's most widely planted freestone peach. Hardy buds; vigorous highly productive disease-resistant spreading trees are tolerant to bacterial spot. Z5/6.

295A Red Haven, $29.00

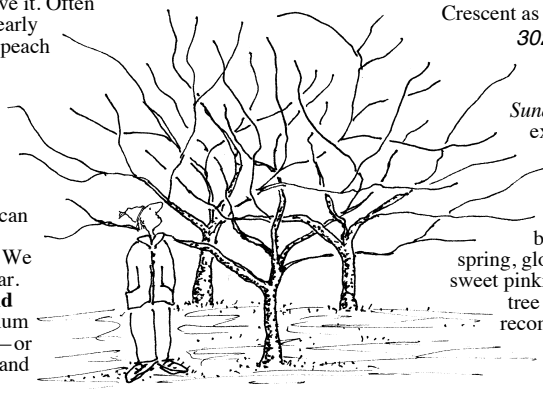
Reliance Early-Mid. Open-pollinated seedling of Minn PHO 4559 x Meredith. NH Ag Exp Stn, 1964. Considered the hardiest peach. Medium-sized, roundish, freestone. Rather dull red blush over greenish yellow. Bright yellow flesh, soft and juicy. Flavor usually considered fair, but those who grow it in Maine love it. Often produces large crops. Bears at an early age. May have some resistance to peach leaf curl. Z4/5.

296A Reliance, $29.00

Hybrid Plums *Prunus*

spp. are extremely hardy crosses between various Asian and American species. Ours had no dieback or fruit-bud damage this past winter. We even had an excellent crop this year.

Hybrid plums require a second variety for pollination. Hybrid plum pollination has been glossed over—or avoided—in virtually all catalogs and fruit-growing literature for generations. We tried a number of different pollination strategies, as Fedco catalog readers will know. However Rick Sawazky at the University of Saskatchewan unearthed a 1934 article that quoted Prof. W. H. Alderman of the University of Minnesota: "…very few hybrid plums would accept pollen freely from other hybrids, but they all accept pollen from native plums." Perhaps the breakthrough we'd all been searching for!



THE INTERTWINING HYBRID PLUM JUMBLE MEANS MORE FRUIT IN SEPTEMBER

Here's what we recommend: plant a cluster of trees close enough together (3–6') for the branches to "co-mingle." Our "clusters" number from 3 to nearly a dozen trees. Include native plum pollinators among the hybrids. With some decent sunshine during bloom, you should get good fruit set. We suggest Toka, South Dakota, Kaga and Pamela as the best pollinators. We also recommend planting pure *Prunus americana* (**#301A** or **#237A**) or *P. nigra* seedlings or grafted trees in the orchard. We include the American plum seedling in this hybrid section because it may be the best pollinator for the hybrids.

Pollination may improve with heat. Growers in warmer districts often report better success with pollination. Perhaps colder temperatures retard pollen production or even somehow render it ineffective. This could in part explain the excellent plum crop up here in 2008. Not only was it sunny all during bloom, it was also warm.

Of course, plums are still susceptible to a small pesky insect, the plum curculio. We have read that laying sheets of cardboard under plum (and apple) trees will smother the PC pupae developing in the soil. PC is not difficult to control organically with Surround (see the Organic Growers section of the Seed catalog). With decent pollinators nearby, Surround may not even be necessary. In 2008 we decided to skip Surround on one grouping of 8 trees and still got a good crop. There is speculation that planting garlic near your plum trees will ward off PC (and vampires). We've got a trial going and will report back as we learn more.

Bloom times similar for all varieties. Not susceptible to black knot. (3-6' trees)

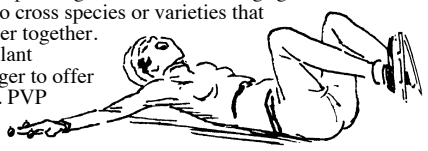
Hybrid Plum Collection A package of 7 trees to begin your plum orchard. Our choice of 7 different trees, including at least two pollinators. **Plant trees in one cluster**, with about 3–6' between trees. Let the branches grow right into one another (see above) while still keeping them pruned to allow in plenty of air and light. Trees are individually labeled.

300A Hybrid Plum Collection, bundle of 7, $190.00

American Plum Seedling *P. americana* 15-20' Seedling plum that grows in thickets and produces very decent red, yellow and orange 1" fruit, suitable for fresh eating, canning and freezing. Spectacular white bloom in spring. Red fall color. Plant singly as a graceful specimen or plant 3–6' apart and let the branches intertwine for maximum pollination. Tends to sucker freely. May be the best pollinator for hybrid plums. (See Hybrid Plums on left.) Plant one of these for every 3 or 4 plum trees, within 10' of each of them. These trees are significantly larger than **#237A**, plum seedling rootstock. Extremely hardy. Z3. **ME Grown**.

301A American Plum Seedling, $29.00

Black Ice Midsummer. *P.* Lydecker [*P. besseyi* x (*P. salicina* Oka x *P. sal.* Z's Blue Giant)] U of Wisc, River Falls, 2006. Large 2" round early-ripening high-quality hardy blue-black dessert plum. Very sweet juicy reddish-purple semi-freestone flesh. Precocious and productive tree with a naturally compact growth habit. Bred by Brian Smith whom I visited a few years ago on a fruit exploration trip in the Upper Midwest. He graciously showed us all through his amazing nursery in River Falls. He was growing many of his plums in huge tubs, manipulating bloom time using greenhouses and coolers. This enabled him to cross species or varieties that would never normally flower together. Though we're not fans of plant patenting, we have been eager to offer his first major introduction. PVP 16621. The literature recommends Toka or La Crescent as a pollinator. Now in trials at our farm. Z3. **ME Grown**.



302A Black Ice, $29.00

Cocheco Midsummer. (Purple Heart x unnamed red-leaf plum) Elwin Meader intro, Rochester, NH, c. 1968. In a lengthy *Maine Sunday Telegram* article on September 8, 1968, Meader said, "It's an example of being able to have your cake and eat it. The new tree is beautiful enough to be an ornamental. It also has delicious fruit and windbreak value." As we sat together chatting in the gazebo a couple of years ago, a friend suddenly turned to me and said, "What is that tree?" Even at 100' away, it is a strikingly beautiful sight. Red twigs and buds in winter, light pink flowers in spring, glossy red foliage all summer long. Red-orange fruit filled with soft sweet pinkish flesh. One of the first to ripen in midsummer. Relatively large tree with an upright growth habit. May be self-pollinating, though we recommend treating it like other hybrid plums. Z4. **ME Grown.**

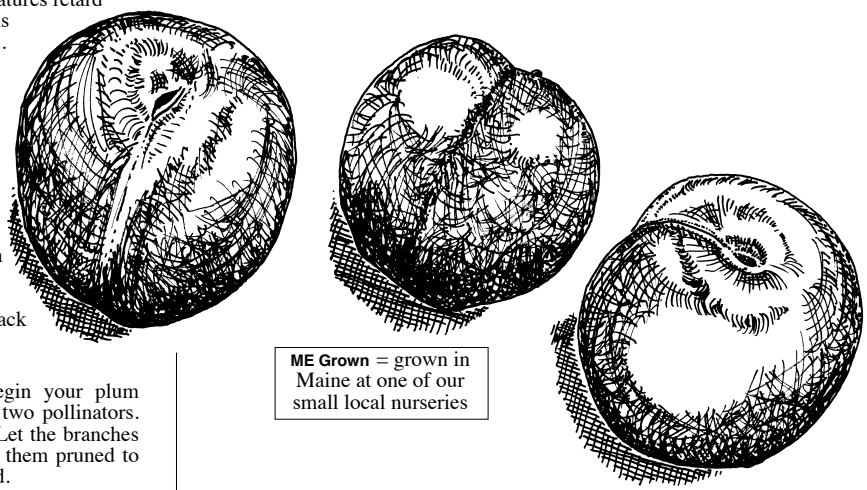
303A Cocheco, $29.00

Grenville Late Summer. (*P. sal*. Burbank x *P. nigra*) Canada Dept of Ag Res Stn, Ottawa, 1941. Large dark rosy-red clingstone fruit, resembling Burbank. Yellow flesh with excellent flavor. Vigorous early-blooming tree. Most of the hybrid plums were developed using Asian varieties crossed with *P. americana*. Grenville was bred using *P. nigra*, the extremely hardy Canada plum. Pollination requirements are the same as other hybrids, but the tree and fruit will be somewhat different from the others. Like *P. nigra*, very hardy. Z3. **ME Grown**.

305A Grenville, $29.00

Kaga Mid-Late Summer. (*P. a*. x *P. simonii*) NE Hansen intro, SD Stn, 1909. Small 1" purple-black fruit. Good eating out of hand when they're dead ripe. Exceptional in jams and jellies due to the meatiness of the black flesh. This is not one of those plums that dissolves and dribbles down your chin. The most profuse bloomer in Mark Fulford's plum collection, coming right in the middle of plum season. Mark considers it to be an excellent pollinator for other hybrid plums. It also bears reliably in his Monroe, ME, orchard. Now on trial in our Palermo orchard. Dense naturally dwarf tree grows to about 10'. *Kaga* is the Sioux word for 'pitch a tent.' Z3. **ME Grown**.

306A Kaga, $29.00



ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

La Crescent Late Summer. (*P. sal.* Shiro x *P. a.* Howard Yellow) U Minn, 1923. Also known as **Golden La Crescent** or **Golden Minnesota**. Most of the hybrid plum varieties are colored with some variation of red and orange with a little purple tossed in. Yellow-skinned La Crescent is one notable exception. The beautiful roundish tender thin-skinned yellow fruit is sometimes blushed with a little pink. Tender yellow juicy flesh of excellent quality is sweet, aromatic and suggestive of apricots. Freestone. Upright spreading vigorous tree. Z3/4. **ME Grown**.

307A La Crescent, $29.00

Pamela Late Summer. *P. a.* seedling, Westmanland, ME. High-quality sweet-fleshed totally freestone medium-small fruit. Reddish skin with yellowish undertones. Productive and extremely hardy. Flowers with a pinkish tone. An excellent pollinator for other hybrid and American plums. Many years ago the longtime Fedco growers Steve and Barb Miller purchased a hybrid plum from one of our competitors. The grafted plum never did well but the rootstock sprouted from below the graft and eventually fruited. It was so good, they began to graft it around the farm. When Steve first told me about the plum, he just called it Pam (***Prunus americana***). We decided to dignify it a bit. Z3. **ME Grown**.

308A Pamela, $29.00

South Dakota Late Summer. SD 27. *P. a.* Unknown parentage. U Minn/SD Ag Exp Stn, 1949. Small to medium fruit has tough yellow skin with bright red blush. Medium-firm yellow flesh is meaty, juicy, sweet. Fresh-eating quality is excellent. Fully freestone. Because of its very long flowering period and American pedigree, we recommend South Dakota as a pollinator for all hybrid plums. In our orchard it's still blooming when the other plums have dropped their flowers. Also ripens after the other hybrids are done. Developed by N.E. Hansen before 1907. One of Hansen's students took it to the breeding program at the University of Minnesota where it was later introduced. Vigorous tree. Z3. **ME Grown**.

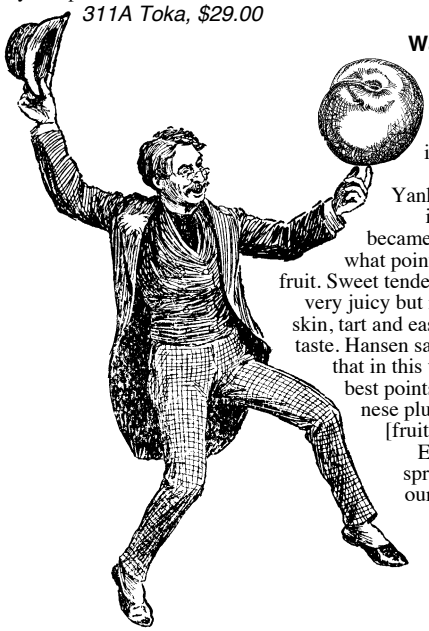
309A South Dakota, $29.00

Superior Late Summer. MN 194 (*P. sal.* Burbank x [*P. a.* x *P. sim.*] Kaga) U Minn, 1933. Very large conical dark red plum with a heavy bloom and *superior* dessert quality. Firm sweet yellow flesh is smooth-textured, extremely juicy and clingstone. Very good fresh eating. Precocious production, vigorous tree. May show some dieback in coldest locations, likely because of its Burbank parentage. Z3/4. **ME Grown**.

310A Superior, $29.00

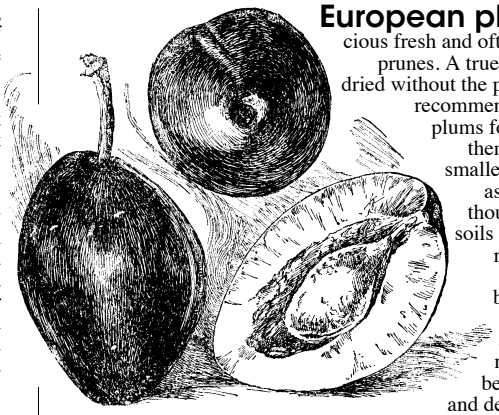
Toka Late Summer. (*P. a.* x *P. sim.*) Intro by NE Hansen, SD Exp Stn, 1911. Rosy red fruit, up to 1 1/2" in diameter, mottled with darker purplish-red and covered with a faint bloom. Grower Don Johnson's comment: "Talk about flavor: candy plum." Ed Fackler called Toka the best-flavored plum he grew in his Indiana orchard. Sweet, distinctive, meaty and flavorful. Not real juicy. Somewhat freestone. Extremely vigorous tree blooms heavily every year. Diligent pruning may be required to keep it from becoming a bit of a monster. Considered to be a good pollinator for other hybrid plums. Z3. **ME Grown**.

311A Toka, $29.00



Waneta Midsummer. (*P. sal.* Apple x *P. a.* Terry) NE Hansen intro, SD Exp Stn, 1913. Released when hybrid plums were an important and commercially viable crop. Named after a Yanktonai youth who won fame in the War of 1812 and later became a great chief. Large, somewhat pointed, 1 1/2–2" reddish-maroon fruit. Sweet tender translucent orange flesh is very juicy but not dripping. Medium-thick skin, tart and easy to peel. Delicious overall taste. Hansen said of Waneta: "My belief is that in this variety I have combined the best points of the native and the Japanese plum. It is probably the largest [fruit] of over 10,000 seedlings." Early blooming healthy open spreading tree bears reliably in our orchard. Z3. **ME Grown**.

312A Waneta, $29.00



European plums *P. domestica* Delicious fresh and often grown commercially for prunes. A true prune is a plum that can be dried without the pit fermenting. We've heard recommendations that you blanch the plums for 45 seconds before drying them. European plums produce smaller fruit and are generally not as hardy as the hybrid plums, though they can handle heavier soils and are less prone to brown rot. Unlike hybrids, they are prone to the fungal disease black knot, which looks like black chewing gum and appears on branches. While not necessarily fatal, it must be kept in check by removing and destroying infected branches.

Trees grow upright and are usually trained to a central leader. Although **European plums are self-pollinating**, planting two different varieties will improve pollination. (3-6' trees)

Green Gage Mid-Late Summer. Unknown origin, may be *P. domestica* x *P. institia*. Probably Armenia, long before 1500. Also called **Reine Claude**. Often considered the best of all dessert plums. Small round semi-freestone yellowish-green fruit sometimes mottled with red has tender juicy melting flesh with rich flavor. A favorite in Europe for more than 500 years. Long referred to as Armenian plum, suggesting its possible point of origin, though no one knows for sure. Found its way into Greece and Italy and then introduced into France in the early 16th c. where it acquired the name Reine Claude in honor of the wife of Francis I. Later brought to England by the Gage family. While a number of Gages have been selected over the years, Green Gage remains the original. Medium-sized tree, bears heavily. Not long-lived. Fruit susceptible to cracking. Z4.

318A Green Gage, $29.00

Mount Royal Late Summer. Chance seedling, Outremont, Quebec, before 1903. Popular plum in Quebec and the northern U.S. for many years. Also called **Mont-Royal**. Discovered by Mr. Corse in or near Montreal sometime during the period between 1830-1850. Bears abundant annual crops of medium-sized roundish dark-purple fruit. Often considered the sweetest of the European plums. The flesh is greenish-yellow, juicy and firm. Use fresh, dried, frozen, canned and in preserves. Medium-sized tree is open with good crotch angles and requires only moderate pruning. Z3.

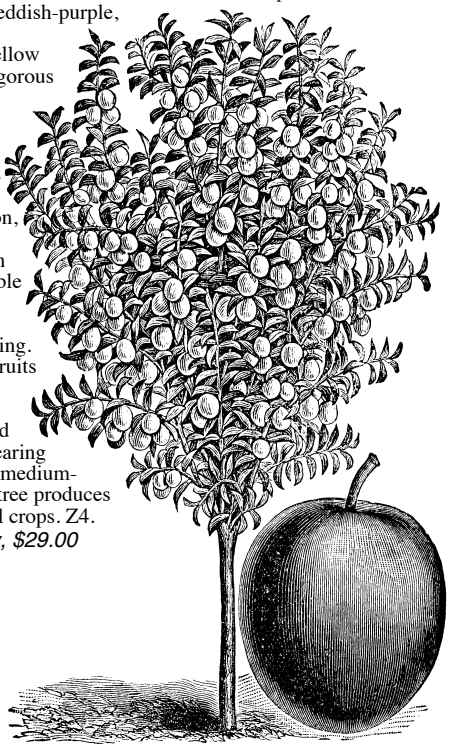
319A Mount Royal, $29.00

Opal Midsummer. Oullins x Early Favorite. Alnarp, Sweden, 1948. Wisconsin plum breeder Brian Smith noted that Opal is the hardiest European plum available. Bob Purvis reported it to be hardy to about –33°. Some years ago we sent 25 trees up to Alaska. Kevin Irvin, then vice president of the Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers Association, arranged the order. He wrote to me, "This plum is hardy in Anchorage, AK, and ripens dependably every year." One of the first of the Europeans to fruit in the season. Good quality, reddish-purple, medium-sized, round, semi-freestone. Firm yellow flesh. Medium-sized vigorous tree. Excellent cropper. Z3. **ME Grown**.

320A Opal, $29.00

Stanley Late Summer. (*P. d.* Agen x *P. d.* Grand Duke) NY Station, 1926. Most popular European prune plum in America with the possible exception of 'Italian.' Excellent for cooking, eating, canning and drying. Medium-to-large oval fruits with dark blue skin. Green-yellow firm but tender juicy fine-grained sweet flesh. Reliably bearing fast-growing adaptable medium-to-large funnel-shaped tree produces healthy vigorous annual crops. Z4.

321A Stanley, $29.00



Plum Curculio... and garlic

Plum curculio is a terrible plum and apple pest. Many organic growers spray Surround clay powder on their trees to combat this weevil. Many years ago we planted garlic near one of our apple trees and neglected to harvest all the bulbs. Now we have a small colony of garlic plants around the tree. Recent reports are touting garlic as a curculio deterrent. Anecdotal evidence suggests the garlic may be working at our place. Plant more garlic!

Small Fruits & Berries

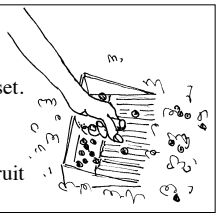
Lowbush Blueberry

Vaccinium angustifolium 6-24" and spreading. Blueberry growers in Maine usually don't bother with the "lowbush" distinction; to them, this is the only true blueberry. Though both plants and berries are diminutive, the taste is supreme. Lustrous blue-green medicinal foliage is good in teas, and turns an amazing combination of bronze, orange and scarlet in the fall. Grown in Maine long before Europeans came Downeast, blueberries are still a local favorite and cultivated on thousands of acres. Commercial blueberry land is burned in the spring to clear out the weeds; a crop follows a year later. To speed harvesting, berries are usually raked rather than hand-picked though you don't have to burn and rake to have a small-scale planting.

Invented in Maine well over 100 years ago by Abijah Tabbutt, the blueberry rake looks something like a cross between a comb and a dustpan. The body of the rake is even called the pan. You comb the rake a bit into the bushes (but not deeply so!), tilt it back and the berries pop off and roll into the pan. As the saying goes, "the lighter the hand, the more berries in the pan." You will also inevitably accumulate small twigs and leaves and various other odds and ends. Best raking is done on a breezy day. Lift the rake above your pail (we use a 5 gallon bucket) and pour. Ideally the berries will stream into the bucket while the twigs and leaves flutter off in the wind. Native to northeastern U.S. Spreads by seed and rhizomes. Plants will gradually form colonies once transplanted. Propagated by Seth Yentes at North Branch Farm in Monroe, ME. Z2. **ME Grown**. (3-yr 4" wide seedlings)

L327A Lowbush Blueberry, $14.00

Lowbush Blueberries



Woodsy dry poor acid soil (pH 4.0–5.2) is a prerequisite for lowbush blueberries. If you've got white pine, you're probably all set. Plant 12" apart each way and cultivate as a ground cover. Generally self-pollinating; other blueberries nearby will help ensure pollination. Full sun is best for maximum fruit production. Keep your patch weed free.

Highbush Blueberries

V. corymbosum are native to North America. While usually associated with New Jersey and Michigan, many of Maine's lakes are lined with massive stands of highbush blueberries. Grazing the shore requires only time and a suitable vessel; we prefer kayak or canoe. The beautiful vigorous shrubs are extremely easy to grow at home, productive and reliable, with few disease or insect problems. By planting several varieties, you can harvest berries from early July through most of August. Bears first crop 3–7 years after planting. Productive for at least 20 or 30 years. Berries may turn blue before they reach their peak flavor. Leave them on the bush until they are fully ripe. Check a few before you pick them all! **Two varieties are required, three or more recommended, for pollination**. (1-2' 2-yr transplants)

Bluegold Mid-Late. 4-5' [Blue Haven x (Ashworth x Bluecrop)] USDA, 1989. Highly productive and flavorful. Firm medium-large light blue fruit ripens over a short period of time. Attractive dark green leaves turn shades of red and purple in the fall. Tolerant of fluctuating temperatures and extremely cold conditions with no bud damage. Densely branched with spreading habit; pruning recommended to encourage upright growth and optimal fruiting. Z3.

328A Bluegold Blueberry, $14.00

Blueray Early-Mid. 4-6' (GM 37 x CU-5) USDA, NJ, 1955. Large firm dark blue berries of high dessert quality in small clusters. Considered the best-tasting by nearly everyone who grows highbush blueberries. Very vigorous bush with upright spreading habit. Consistently productive. Z4.

329A Blueray Blueberry, $14.00

Chippewa Early-Mid. 3-4' (MN 393 [B18A (G65 x Ashworth) x US3 (Dixi x Michigan Lowbush No. 1)]) U Minn, 1996. Lowbush-highbush type. Very light blue medium-large firm fruit in compact clusters. Mild and sweet flavor similar to the best wild strains. Foliage is a very lustrous green. Z3.

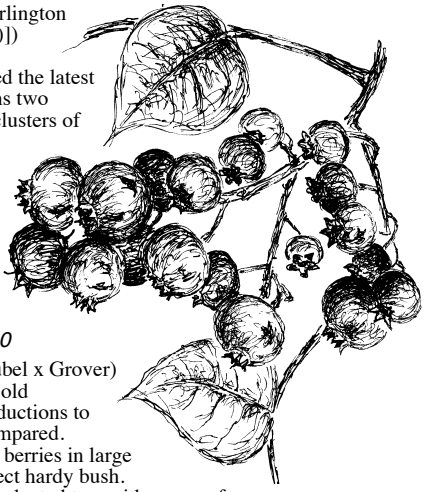
330A Chippewa Blueberry, $14.00

Duke Early. 4-6' [G-100 (Ivanhoe x Earliblue) x 192-8 (E-30 x E-11)] USDA, NJ, 1987. Recent release considered a big improvement over Earliblue, the standard early cultivar. Firm medium-sized light blue fruit with mild sweet flavor, excellent for fresh eating or processing. Vigorous upright high-yielding bush. Long stems and loose clusters. Z4.

331A Duke Blueberry, $14.00

Elizabeth Mid-Late. 5-6'. Introduced in 1966 by Elizabeth White of New Jersey who found numerous heavy-fruiting strains from wild bushes that became the parents of many of today's cultivars. Friend and avid fruit grower Dan Kennedy of Searsmont, ME, grows 17 different varieties of highbush and rates it and Blueray as his top favorites. He describes the bushes as bearing "dense clusters of large fruit" with a balanced flavor of sweet and tart. Stores well in refrigeration. Large vigorous upright shrub has strong spreading lateral branches. Z4.

332A Elizabeth Blueberry, $14.00



Elliott Very Late. 4-6' (Burlington x [Dixi x (Jersey x Pioneer)]) USDA, 1974. A real season-extender. Considered the latest of all varieties, Elliott ripens two weeks after Jersey. Loose clusters of medium-sized very firm mild-flavored light blue berries. Slightly spreading somewhat bushy upright plant is highly productive every year, in part because it blooms late and escapes spring frosts. Z4.

333A Elliot Blueberry, $14.00

Jersey Mid-Late. 5-7' (Rubel x Grover) USDA, 1928. The beloved old standard of blueberry introductions to which new varieties are compared. Medium-to-large dark blue berries in large loose clusters. Vigorous erect hardy bush. Productive, widely grown, adapted to a wide range of soils, highly praised, easy to grow and suited to the New England climate. Z4.

334A Jersey Blueberry, $14.00

Meader Early-Mid. 5-7'. Elwyn Meader intro, Univ of NH Ag Exp Stn, Durham, NH, 1971. Medium-large, medium-blue fruit with excellent flavor. Sweet with a hint of acid. Vigorous upright open lightly spreading form. Very hardy. Z4 or even Z3.

335A Meader Blueberry, $14.00

Nelson Late. 5-6' [(Bluecrop x G-107) (F-72 x Berkeley)] USDA, NJ, 1989. Firm large dark blue berries in loose clusters combine the great taste of Bluecrop with the large size of Berkeley. Particularly vibrant red fall foliage. Upright vigorous high-yielding bush. Z4.

336A Nelson Blueberry, $14.00

Patriot Early-Mid. 4' (US3 [(Dixie x Michigan LB-1) x Earliblue]) U Maine, 1976. Partial lowbush parentage. Adaptable to many soil types. Productive berry will fill your super bowl *every* year! Large firm berries with excellent flavor. Upright open spreading bush. Tolerant or resistant to some strains of soil fungus. Hardy. Z3.

337A Patriot Blueberry, $14.00

Polaris Early-Mid. 4x4' (MN408 [(G-65 x Ashworth) x Bluetta)]) U Minn, 1996. Aromatic light blue medium-sized fruit is very firm with a strong tangy sweet flavor. Smaller slightly spreading shrub, making it a good choice where space is limited. Very hardy. Z3.

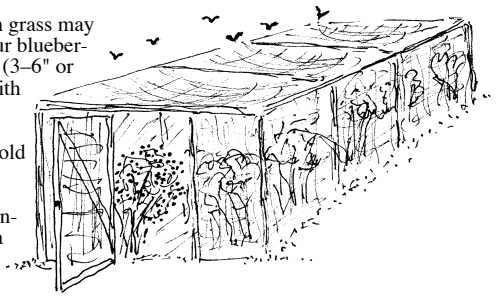
338A Polaris Blueberry, $14.00

Highbush Blueberries are shallow-rooted and like light acid soil (pH 4.0–5.2) with plenty of organic matter, good drainage, and plenty of water. Space them 3–6' apart (3' for the shorter varieties) in rows 8–10' apart. If your soil is lacking acidity, add peat, woods humus, or 1 cup elemental sulfur per bush.

Dig a hole at least twice the size of the root ball. If you use peat, soak it and then mix it with soil at a one-to-one ratio. We suggest dipping roots in Agri-gel. Plant at the same depth as in the nursery. Do not let the roots dry out! Pack the soil firmly and water thoroughly. Plants require at least 1" water per week during the growing season. On most soils, blueberries require regular applications of nitrogen. In the spring, apply a high-nitrogen fertilizer, such as 1/2–1 qt composted hen manure per plant.

Fruit is produced on vigorous one-year shoots off healthy canes. As canes age they become twiggy and less productive. Begin pruning after three years. Head back long pieces of new growth for a bushier plant. Cut out weak or dead canes and dead tips. Each bush should be allowed to grow 6–10 canes varying in age from 1–6 years old. Thereafter, remove dead canes and those over 6 years old and encourage new replacement canes. Bushes with regular moderate pruning produce the most berries.

Berries may need net protection from birds. One of the best arrangements we've seen is John Meader's netted "house" in Buckfield. He has about 40 bushes growing under a framework made of posts and 2x4s and completely covered in netting.



Competition with grass may weaken and kill your blueberries. Mulch heavily (3–6" or more) every year with pine needles, cardboard, wood chips, hay, sawdust, even old slab wood. When using sawdust you may want to compensate by adding extra nitrogen.

Raspberries *Rubus* spp. We love raspberries. Fresh raspberries, frozen raspberries, raspberry smoothies, raspberry jam and especially raspberry pie. We even like the dried foliage—best taken from the first-year primocanes—which makes a delicious and healthful tea. A leaf and fruit vinegar is very high in minerals, and the leaf tea makes a great astringent and tasty tonic. The root bark is also medicinal. Native to North America, Europe and Asia, they are usually identified as *R. idaeus* or *R. i.* var. *strigosus*. 53 different *Rubus* species and subspecies live in Maine.

Everbearing types bear on first-year canes (primocanes). Everbearing raspberries are particularly desirable for northern growers because they can die to the ground (or be cut to the ground) and still produce a sizable crop the following year. However, most everbearers ripen too late for growers in Zones 3 and 4 and cold areas of Zone 5. We don't list Heritage, a popular producer of high-quality fruit, for that reason. We offer Polana because it is one of the earliest fruiting of the everbearing varieties. In central Maine the first of these ripens in mid to late August.

Summer-bearing cultivars bear on second-year canes (floricanes). Midseason berries ripen around late July in central Maine.

A second variety is not needed for pollination. Prior to planting, soak canes in Agri-gel. (See sidebar; available here or in the Organic Growers Supply section of the Seed catalog.)

Please note: Raspberries have very fine, fibrous roots. Often they do not sprout from the plant stem after planting. This is OK. Be patient! Keep them well watered and they should all break dormancy, sprout from the roots and thrive for many years to come. All of our canes are certified virus-free. (well-rooted bare-root canes)

Everbearing Raspberries

Anne Late. JEF-b1 (Amity x Glen Garry) U of MD, 1998. Everbearing sweet flavorful pale yellow raspberry ripens in fall. Large cohesive conic fruit stores decently, firmer than other yellows. Semi-vertical canes may sucker less than most everbearing types. Cut it entirely to the ground after the season is over. Resistant to Phytophthora root rot. Z4.

341A Anne Raspberry, bundle of 10, $29.50

August Red Late. NH R7 [Durham x NH 102 (dwarf F2 seedling x Taylor)] x NY 287 [NY 18810 (Marcy x Indian Summer) x NY 20990 (R. strigosus selection)] Developed by E.M. Meader, UNH, 1973. After several years' hiatus, we are very excited to reintroduce this rare variety, thanks to Nourse Farms, where it was custom propagated. Considered the hardiest of the everbearing types—the last hope when no other raspberry will survive. Can die back to the snow line and still bear heavily that summer. Medium-large crimson fruit has excellent flavor. Compact 3' bush bears earlier than other everbearers, even Polana. Mow them to the ground in late fall. They come back in spring and produce in midsummer, about Aug. 10 in central Maine. Large well-rooted plugs transplant easily. Z3. (large well-rooted plugs)

L342A August Red Raspberry, bundle of 3, $29.50

Polana Late. Heritage x Zeva Herbsternte. Research Inst of Pomology and Floriculture, Brzezna, Poland, 1991. Very early fruiting everbearing red raspberry has performed very well in our Fedco trials. Ripens in late August or early September in northern districts. According to David Handley of the University of Maine, "as near a thing to a sure bet." Large firm berries with very good flavor on vigorous and productive short canes. Easy to pick: the berries hang off the tops of the plants. Suckers freely. Z4.

343A Polana Raspberry, bundle of 10, $29.50

Summer-bearing Raspberries

Killarney Early. Chief x Indian Summer. Morden Station, Manitoba, 1961. Produces medium-to-large round crumbly fruit of excellent quality over a long season. Deep red summer-bearing cultivar ripens after Prelude and before Nova. Same parentage as Boyne but firmer texture and brighter color. Sturdy 4' canes. Yields consistently. Extremely hardy. Z4.

344A Killarney Raspberry, bundle of 10, $29.50

Latham Mid. MN4 (King x Loudon) U. Minn 1920. A standard raspberry for almost a century, extremely popular and widely grown. Large bright red 1" fruit is roundish, firm, a little crumbly and sprightly sweet, full-flavored and aromatic. Great for fresh eating, canning, freezing, jam, juice or pie. Ripens over an extended season making it an ideal candidate for the home garden. Canes are 4–5' tall and highly productive. Not as spiny as most raspberries. Widely adaptable and very winter hardy. Disease resistant. Z3.

345A Latham Raspberry, bundle of 10, $29.50

Royalty Purple Mid. (Cumberland x Newburgh) x (Newburgh x Indian Summer) NY Stn, 1982. Their distinctive flavor is different from the red raspberries, with a hint of black raspberry. A favorite for fresh eating among those who know it. Cohesive fairly firm large berries make outstanding jam and jelly, too. Extremely robust minimally suckering plants are very productive and open-formed; the berries are right in your face and easy to pick. Ready to harvest when they are deep purple, somewhat later than the reds. Plant in hills (see sidebar). Usually considered Zone 4 but is proving itself into Zone 3 with occasional slight tip dieback. Does not like wet soil. Disease resistant. Z3/4.

346A Royalty Purple Raspberry, bundle of 5, $29.50

Taylor Mid-Late. Newman x Lloyd George. NY Stn, 1935. Heirloom variety still loved today for its excellent flavor and very large firm conic fruit, often more than 1" long. Parent plant of many new crosses, including everbearer August Red. Considered one of the best-tasting varieties. Highly productive canes bear light to medium-red fruit over a span of about 3 weeks. Tall sturdy growth habit, no need for support or trellising. Z4.

347A Taylor Raspberry, bundle of 10, $29.50

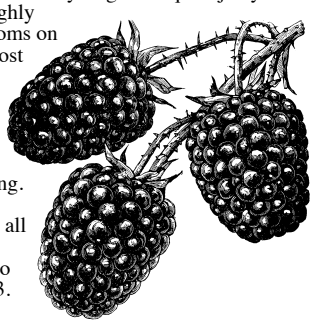
Black Raspberries

Jewel Midseason. Bristol x Dundee. Cornell, Geneva, NY. High-yielding variety with superb quality and flavor. Glossy large firm juicy fruit melts in your mouth with rich sweet lingering flavor. Larger than Bristol. Excellent choice for fresh eating, jams and jellies. Keeps its shape for several days with refrigeration. Black raspberries have been called the King of Fruits because of their high levels of antioxidants and anthocyanins that give the berries their dark color. Strengthens immune system if eaten regularly. Freeze excess berries to eat during the winter to help prevent colds and flus. Vigorous disease-resistant canes. Z4.

348A Jewel Black Raspberry, bundle of 5, $29.50

Blackberries

Nelson Midsummer. Nelson has been surviving Maine winters for at least a century. Introduced to us by the descendants of Nelson Fronk, whose 1928 family photograph taken on their farm northeast of Farmington shows the blackberries growing next to the barn. John Meader grows Nelson and calls it "exceptionally hardy," one of the most enduring blackberries he has ever grown. Tall sturdy upright inch-thick canes can be grown on posts but also do well free standing. Fruit is moderately large and quite juicy with true blackberry taste. Highly productive: 16–18 blossoms on the central stalk is the most John has ever seen on a blackberry. He gets four good pickings from his patch over two weeks in mid-August. Excellent jelly and good fresh eating. Disease resistant and certified virus-free. Like all blackberries, spreads quickly so give it room to move. Z4, maybe Zone 3. **ME Grown.**



351A Nelson Blackberry, bundle of 3, $29.50

Raspberries and Blackberries

Cane fruits have shallow perennial roots. They prefer full sun, good air circulation, and well-drained soil rich in organic matter. Avoid soils where tomatoes, peppers, potatoes, strawberries or wild brambles have grown. A well-kept patch can last for 10–20 years.

Prepare planting holes by adding manure (15 bushels dry or 10 bushels fresh per 100 sq ft) and make each large enough to spread out the roots. Do not allow the fine roots to dry out. We suggest soaking roots in Agri-gel for 1–2 hours before planting. Plant 1–2" deeper than in the nursery and then cut the canes off at ground level. Mulch with a thick layer of woodchips. Fertilize liberally each spring with up to 100 lbs manure or compost, 8 lbs bloodmeal or 14 lbs soybean meal per 100 foot row. Some sources recommend additional nitrogen feeding each June and August. Plants require 2" water per week during the growing season.

• **Summer-bearing raspberries**: To make a hedgerow, trellis between two wires about 3–4' off the ground and 18–36" apart. Space plants 2' apart. After harvest, prune to the ground the canes that carried fruit (or remove them the following spring). Thin the fresh first-year canes to about 3–4" apart. They will bear fruit next year. During the growing season cut back canes to 5' if they are bending over severely.

• **Purple and black raspberries** and **blackberries**: Plant in hills 3–4' apart, 3–4 plants per hill. Tie to a center post for support, if needed. Basic pruning is same as above. As they fill in, thin to 5–8 canes per hill. During the early summer, pinch back tip of first year canes to 2½–3' tall. This will encourage lateral fruiting branches. You may run a wire between hills for lateral branching but this is not necessary. In the following spring, cut these fruiting laterals back to 8–12 buds.

• **Everbearing raspberries**: Plant 9–15" apart. Because everbearing types bear fruit on first-year and second-year canes, you have a couple of options. In warmer districts, you can leave the first-year canes to overwinter after they fruit. The following year, you will get a light crop in early summer from those now two-year-old canes, followed by a larger crop later from the new first-year canes. In colder areas generally you would cut all canes to the ground in late fall after the leaves drop, or in early spring; new first-year canes will fruit in mid-late summer.

Agri-gel A hydrogel formulation that absorbs and holds water. The swollen crystals adhere to plant roots, reducing transplant shock. Safe, nontoxic, easy to use. Useful for garden seedlings as well as woody plants. Highly recommended for raspberries and conifers. Half-ounce packet mixed with 1–3 gallons of water will treat up to 100 cane plants, or 50 trees and shrubs. *Not allowed for organic certification*. ½ oz.

L575A Agrigel, $3.00

Strawberries *Fragaria* x *ananassa* A major highlight of every summer is picking strawberries. In central Maine strawberry season usually coincides with the summer solstice. Although no one knows where the common name *strawberry* originated, idle speculation has it that it comes from the practice of putting straw down between the rows for pickers to sit on while they sample the fruit and catch up with each other.

Modern strawberries, developed about 1830, are a hybrid of *F. chiloensis* (native of Chile) and *F. virginiana* (native of North America). Royce Bringhurst of the University of California-Davis developed day-neutral strawberries from wild plants found in Utah's Wasatch Mountains. He crossed these with modern commercial varieties and introduced the first day-neutrals in 1980.

50 plants will plant from 50-100'. (virus-free bare-root stock)

Annapolis Early. K74-5 [(Micmac x Raritan) x Earliglow] Kentville, Nova Scotia, 1984. Get a jump on strawberry season with Annapolis. Fruitful even under chilly conditions, turns red consistently and reliably each year before other berries. Large plump light red fruits maintain size through several pickings. Firm tender delicious flesh. A favorite among those who grow it. Vigorous and winter hardy. Recommended for northern growers. Z3.

L353A Annapolis Strawberry, bundle of 50, $19.00

Cavendish Early-Mid. K83-4 (Annapolis x Glooscap) Canada Res Stn intro, Nova Scotia, 1990. Medium-large fruit, glossy deep red skin with firm flesh that is almost entirely red. Shaun Keenan and Benji Knisley of Sand Hill Farm in Somerville, ME, have been growing this berry for years. It is a favorite among some pickers and Benji's favorite for making jams. Berries ripen with some white around the stem so don't be deceived: they might be ripe before they look it. Sweet melon-like flavor, less tart than Honeoye and ripens around the same time. Highly productive yields continue over a long season and have proven reliable even when other varieties don't come through. Very hardy and climate adaptable. Resistant to red stele, powdery mildew and verticillium wilt. Z3.

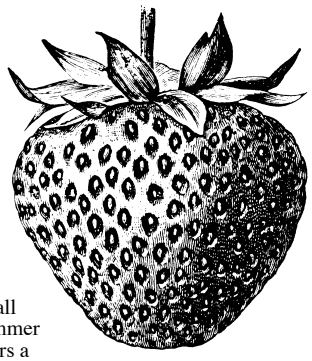
L354A Cavendish Strawberry, bundle of 50 for $19.00

Honeoye Early-Mid. NY 1409 (Vibrant x Holiday) NY Station, 1979. Folks pronounce it *honey-eye*. Tough, hardy, vigorous, extremely productive, and easy to grow. The freezer-filler of the strawberry patch. Large conic bright red fruit produces over a long fruiting season. Firm flesh with tart—and surprisingly good—flavor. Excellent freezing quality. A week before Jewel. Probably the most popular commercial berry in the Northeast. Plant in well-drained soil to avoid red stele. Susceptible to verticillium wilt. Z3/4.

L355A Honeoye Strawberry, bundle of 50, $19.00

Jewel Mid-Late. NY 1324 [(Senga Sengana x NY E-58) x Holiday] NY Stn, 1985. Shaun Keenan suggested that we add Jewel to our list; he even went so far as to say that Jewel tastes almost as good as Sparkle. Although we don't think we'd go quite that far, we were very impressed with the berry. Large shiny red perfectly shaped fruit is firm, sweet and slightly aromatic. Unlike Sparkle, Earliglow and many other varieties, it keeps its size all season. Extremely popular with commercial growers and Gene's favorite. Good freezing quality. Low incidence of fruit rots and foliar diseases. Not resistant to verticillium or red stele. Z4.

L356A Jewel Strawberry, bundle of 50, $19.00



Mara des Bois [(Gento x Osara) x (Red Gauntlet x Korona)] Hybridized by Jacques Marionett, Soings En Sologne, France, 1991. **Everbearing** strawberry claimed to be the most flavorful and fragrant of the day neutrals, often referred to as "gourmet." Berries are high in methyl anthranilate, the volatile compound that gives them their strong fragrance. Commercially grown in France where they are sold at a premium. Shorter shelf life makes them better suited for local markets. Plants bear medium-small glossy red berries prolifically from summer into fall the first year. Second year bears a heavy spring crop with continuously ripening berries throughout the summer. Z4.

L357A Mara des Bois Strawberry, bundle of 50, $19.00

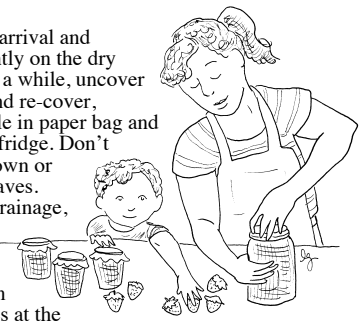
Seascape CN 49. Developed by Royce Bringhurst, U Cal, Davis, 1991. **Everbearing** day-neutral strawberry sets flower buds regardless of day length, produces over a very long season, fruiting all summer and into fall. Remove flower buds for the first 6 weeks after planting and you'll still get a crop the first year. Seascape is showing excellent results in Northeast trials. Medium-to-long conic high-yielding firm productive reliable fruit with bright red color and excellent flavor. Broad resistance to fungal diseases. Somewhat susceptible to common leaf spot and two-spotted spider mite. Should be hardy in all but the coldest districts. Z3.

L358A Seascape Strawberry, bundle of 50, $19.00

Sparkle Mid-Late. (Fairfax x Aberdeen) NJ Ag Exp Stn, 1942. Although not a favorite with commercial growers because of moderate crop size and smaller berries, we've yet to taste a strawberry that comes even remotely close to Sparkle. They possess a flavor that can only be described as the essence of strawberry. The best in an early year, the best in a late year, the best this year, last year, every year. This is the berry if you want to eat the perfect strawberry. Soft berries make delicious fresh eating and are also excellent for jams and freezing. One of its few drawbacks is that it tends to lose color in the freezer. First fruit set is large; the rest are small. Resistant to most strains of red stele. Blooms late, rarely affected by spring frost. Z3.

L359A Sparkle Strawberry, bundle of 50, $19.00

Strawberries



Keep cold or refrigerate between arrival and planting. We ship with roots slightly on the dry side. If you cannot plant them for a while, uncover the roots, mist them with water and re-cover, leaving tops exposed. Place bundle in paper bag and store on the bottom shelf of your fridge. Don't be alarmed if the tops become brown or mushy: they will generate new leaves.

Strawberries require good air drainage, well-drained fertile soil with pH of 5.8–6.2, thick mulch and full sun. Avoid soils where tomatoes, peppers or potatoes have grown in the past 4 years. Plant strawberries at the same depth as they were in the nursery, with the middle of the crown at soil level. Keep your patch free of weeds. They require 3/4–1" water per week during April, May, August, September and October. Mulch with hay or straw in late fall to protect plants over winter. In the spring, pull mulch off plants and place between rows where it will keep fruit dry and clean during the summer. It can also be raked back over the plants if frost threatens flower buds. Floating rowcover may also be used for winter and frost protection.

June-Bearing Strawberries

Matted Row system: Set plants 12–24" apart in rows 3' apart. Allow plants to produce runners freely and fill in the row. Remove all flowers the first year. Harvest berries the second summer. Immediately after harvest, fertilize liberally with compost or aged manure and renovate the row. By hand or with a tiller, narrow the row to 12" wide. Thin plants to 4–5" apart within the row. By this method a bed can last about 5 years. Then plow it under and start again.

Everbearing or **Day-Neutral Strawberries** flower regardless of day length as long as temperatures are between 35 and 85°, and produce fruit from June to October. They are also uncommonly productive—about 1 lb of fruit per plant the first year, and slightly less the second year. Productivity peaks in August the first year. The second year, berry size decreases in the hottest weather and increases in cooler weather.

They are heavy feeders and benefit from 3–4" of manure worked 4–6" into the soil prior to planting, and monthly side-dressing of manure throughout the season. Plant 6–12" apart. Mulch with black plastic or thick straw immediately after planting. Remove flowers for the first 6 weeks, and remove all runners the first season. Mulch in late fall. Sidedress with manure monthly during the second season beginning in May. Till under after the second year and begin again.

Grapes *Vitis* spp. Grapes are easy to grow and can bear plentifully even in northern New England. They begin fruiting in the second or third year after planting. They are rugged and cold hardy. Our vines bear consistently every year. Although many people prefer seedless types for table use, seeded varieties can be quite enjoyable right off the vine if you don't mind "grape nuts." Grape seeds contain an antioxidant that is twice as powerful as Vitamin C.

The popularity of drinking wine is not new. The Chinese were fermenting it from hawthorn berries nearly 12,000 years ago. The first wine from grapes was likely made in Turkey or Iran 7,000 years ago. Traces of red wine were found in the tomb of the Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamen. Resveratrol is the polyphenol at the center of the current red wine hoopla. It appears to have anti-carcinogenic and anti-inflammatory properties as well as anti-microbial agents that work to prevent heart disease. Red wine is good for you!

Most grape varieties are bred from a combination of different species, *V. labrusca* and *V. vinifera* being the most important. *Labrusca* is native to the eastern U.S., has a wild tart musky (foxy) flavor, and is hardy and disease resistant. Concord is the best-known of the *labruscas*. *Vinifera*, native to Europe, is extremely high quality, and is the most important wine grape in the world, but is not cold hardy and is prone to disease. Riesling and chardonnay are the two hardiest pure *vinifera* grapes.

In central Maine, "very early" grapes begin ripening in mid-August, while "midseason" ripen mid-September. Late-season Concord, a standard elsewhere, does not ripen in many northern areas. **Do not require a second cultivar for pollination unless noted.** (1-2 yr well-rooted vines)

Bluebell Mid. MN 158 (Beta x unknown) Developed by JM Dorsey, U Minn, 1944. Our most popular seeded grape; it does everything well. Extremely hardy, to –30°, *labrusca* type ripens 2–3 weeks earlier than Concord. While it ripens beautifully from central Maine south, it may not have time to ripen in some northernmost locales. Delicious sweet flavor makes them excellent for fresh eating, jelly and juice. Clusters of medium-sized dark berries with a heavy blue bloom. Strong, productive, vigorous—but not rampant—vine. A joy to grow. Immune to most or all fungal diseases. Rare. Z3. **ME Grown.**

362A Bluebell Grape, $15.00

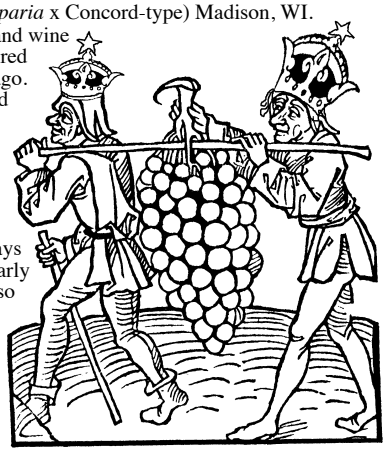
John Viola Very Early. Chance seedling, probably *labrusca* x *riparia*. Elwyn Meader intro, Rochester, NH, 1970s. Clusters of bright electric-blue berries for fresh eating, jam, jelly and very colorful juice. David Handley at Highmoor Farms Cooperative Extension says the fruit is small, early, tangy and may make good wine. We'll let you know! New this year to our catalog but has been doing well in our Maine trials. We are impressed by its vigor in the nursery. Ripens 4–5 weeks before Concord. As hardy as Beta and Bluebell, to –35°. Disease resistant. Named for the man in whose yard Prof. Meader found the original seedling. Z3. **ME Grown.**

363A John Viola Grape, $15.00

Kay Gray Mid. ES217 [(MN78 x Golden Muscat) x open-pollinated] Swenson intro, Osceola, WI, 1981. Tight clusters of medium-large firm green white-fleshed slip-skin berries. High quality, mild foxy flavor good for dessert, juice or white wine. Generally used for blending but some years will produce an exceptional varietal wine on its own. Very reliable moderately vigorous productive vine. Fruit hangs on well after ripening. Extremely good disease resistance. Very hardy. Grape breeder Elmer Swenson named this variety for the wife of a friend. Z3. **ME Grown.**

364A Kay Gray Grape, $15.00

King of the North Mid. (*V. riparia* x Concord-type) Madison, WI. Very hardy dark-skinned table and wine grape originally named and offered by Jung's Nursery many years ago. Rediscovered in recent years and rapidly gaining popularity. Minnesota grower and winemaker John Marshall recommends King of the North as the one variety for both a good table grape and a decent red "Concord style" wine. He says that it's "very delicious particularly as a home wine although it is also meeting success as a commercial wine grape." Produces light red sweet tasty juice. Ripens slightly later than Bluebell. Z3. **ME Grown.**



365A King of the North Grape, $15.00

Louise Swenson Mid. ES 4-8-33 (ES 2-3-17 x Kay Gray) Elmer Swenson intro, MN, 2001. Also called **Louise**. Small-medium clusters of high-quality light green grapes produce a light subtle aromatic white wine. Minnesota Grape Growers describes the wine as having a "delicate aroma of flowers and honey." Winemakers recommend adding fuller-bodied grapes like Prairie Star or Frontenac Blanc for a finished blend. Extremely reliable yields on moderately vigorous vines. Buds out relatively late in the spring. Extremely hardy to –40°. Disease resistant. This one was named for Elmer's wife. Z3.

366A Louise Swenson Grape, $15.00

Grapes prefer soils with pH of 5.8–7.0. For the best grapes, provide moderate fertility, very well-drained soil and full sun. Every June we thoroughly weed the grapes under our arbor, then mulch very liberally with old hay. After that, we don't do a thing to them except harvest in late summer and prune in late fall. Space 8–12' apart in rows 8–12' apart.

Spread the roots out, planting the crown even with the soil surface. Do not prune roots. Pack soil well. Water and mulch well. After frost danger has passed, prune vines back to 3–5 strong buds. Continue to mulch annually with hay or straw. Every few years fertilize liberally with granite dust.

Grapes require annual pruning and a trellis or arbor, though in Italy they still sometimes grow them in maple trees. All systems for growing grapes involve removal of most growth in spring or late fall to encourage new canes, as fruit is produced on these canes. There are many systems for training grapes. Some are suited to laying down and covering tender varieties over winter. Any good book on grape growing will show you several options. We suggest the Hudson River Umbrella or the Four-arm Kniffin system. The University of Maine offers a series of videos demonstrating different grape-training techniques. Go to umaine.edu/highmoor/ and click on "videos."

People sometimes ask about wire. The current vineyard standard is high-tensile-strength class III galvanized steel wire. The gauge should be 11 to 12.5. The wire is generally sold by weight. 100 lbs of 11 gauge measures about 2600'. 100 lbs of 12.5 measures about 3800'.

Grapes rated for Zone 5 can be grown in Zones 3 and 4. To prevent winter injury, remove the vine from the trellis in fall, lay it on the ground, and bury with just enough soil to cover. To do this, plant your new grapevine at a 45° angle. Train new shoots horizontally for at least one foot. Then, curve shoots upward to form a J shape. This creates a flexible hinge, allowing you to lay the vine down at the end of the season.

Marquette Mid-Late. MN 1211 (MN 1094 x Rivat 262) U Minn, 2006. This grape has northern winemakers buzzing with excitement. The best variety this side of the Atlantic for a pinot-noir–style red table wine. One parent, MN 1094, has both *V. riparia* and *V. vinifera* in its background. The other, Rivat 262, is a French hybrid with pinot noir as one of its parents. Not only is Marquette heavy with *vinifera*, the vines are also extremely hardy. And there's more: sugar levels are high—in the range of 26.1 Brix—and the acid levels are lower than Frontenac. Substantial tannins add complexity. Small-medium bluish-black berries in small to medium-sized clusters. Ripens a few days before Frontenac. Z3. **ME Grown.**

367A Marquette Grape, $15.00

Sabrevois Mid. ES 2-1-9. Swenson intro, MN, 2001. Small to medium clusters of nearly black fruit with moderate sugars and slightly high acids produce an excellent dry complex aromatic red wine with good body. Often used for blending with Frontenac or other reds known for higher sugars. Varietals should be aged for two years in the bottle. Very hardy strong vigorous upright vines can produce bountiful crops. Named after the town near the Richelieu River in southern Québec where vintner Gilles Benoît of Vignoble des Pins is making high-quality wine from the variety. Hardy to about –30˚. Very disease resistant. Z4. **ME Grown.**

368A Sabrevois Grape, $15.00

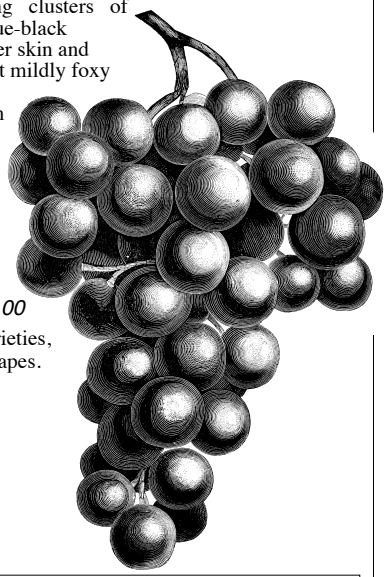
Somerset Seedless Early. ES12-7-98 (ES5-3-64 x Petite Jewel) Elmer Swenson intro. Somerset is likely one of the hardiest seedless grapes available today. One of the last Swenson introductions before the renowned and beloved grape breeder passed away in December 2004. Medium-sized loose clusters with small sweet ruddy reddish-golden fruit. Crispy texture and great flavor. Easy to grow but not overly vigorous. Z4.

369A Somerset Seedless Grape, $15.00

Vanessa Seedless Mid. (Seneca x NY 45910) Introduced by KH Fisher and OA Bradt, Vineland Stn, Ontario, 1983. Large bright firm seedless deep red grapes with a fruity flavor make the absolute best raisins we've ever eaten. Excellent fresh eating. Medium-sized well-filled cluster on a vigorous vine. Ours had some dieback this winter at –20˚ but they all re-sprouted from the base and are back to where they left off last summer. One of several grape varieties offered this year that were grown by Bennett Verbeck of Whiffletree Nursery in Brooks, ME, with wood collected from established vines at Highmoor Farms in Monmouth, ME. Z4/5. **ME Grown.**

370A Vanessa Seedless Grape, $15.00

Worden Mid. *V. labrusca*. Concord seedling. Minetto, NY, 1863. Heirloom variety. Large long broad tapering clusters of medium-sized round dark purplish blue-black berries with a heavy bloom, thin tender skin and greenish translucent flesh. Juicy sweet mildly foxy flavor with excellent fresh-eating quality. Ripens 2–3 weeks earlier than its parent. In 1908, *The Grapes of New York* recorded, "Of all the offspring of Concord, this variety is best known and is most meritorious." Healthy hardy vigorous productive vines. Thick fuzzy leathery leaves are not so appealing to Japanese beetles. Z4. **ME Grown.**



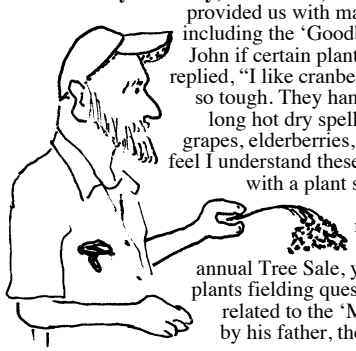
371A Worden Grape, $15.00

Grape Collection Our pick of 4 varieties, a combo of hardy dessert and wine grapes. Great deal!

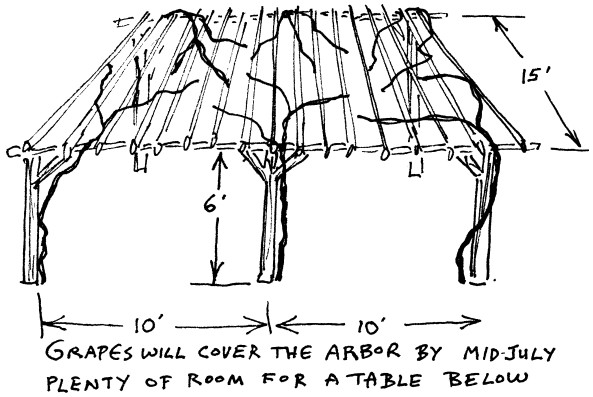
374A Grape Collection, bundle of 4, $50.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

Grower Profile: John Meader

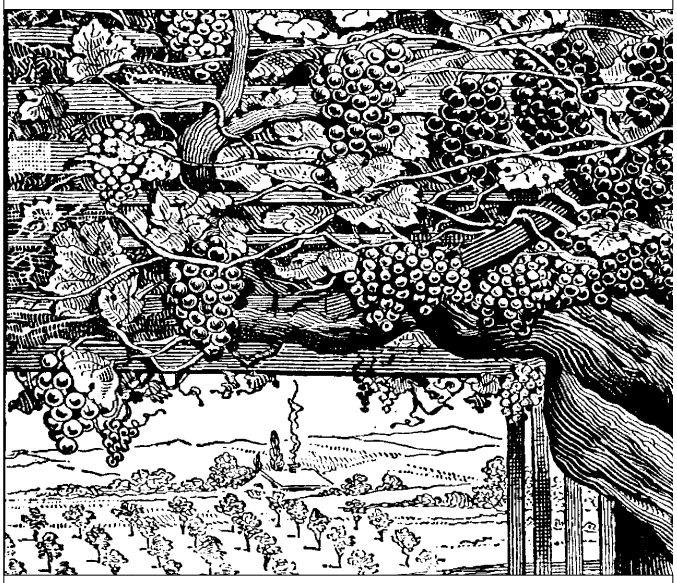


Maine Hardy Nursery, Buckfield, ME. Since 1985, John Meader has provided us with many wonderful plants for our catalog, including the 'Goodbarn' elderberry. Recently, we asked John if certain plants were dearer to him than others. He replied, "I like cranberries and blueberries because they're so tough. They handle very acid soils, excess water and long hot dry spells. I've also worked with raspberries, grapes, elderberries, beach plums and mulberries. I don't feel I understand these all that well. It takes years of living with a plant species, and then you still get fooled, or pleasantly surprised, which is the reward: learning. Plus, of course, the fruit to eat." If you come to our annual Tree Sale, you'll find John among the blueberry plants fielding questions from the crowd. And yes, he is related to the 'Meader' highbush blueberry, selected by his father, the late Professor Elwyn Meader.



Growing Grapes on an Arbor

Train one or more vines onto an arbor or gazebo; we have 8 vines, spaced about 10' apart. Prune each vine back to a single trunk. Encourage several permanent arms from each trunk. Every winter remove 70-90% of the the past summer's growth. Next summer new fruiting canes will grow off the permanent arms.



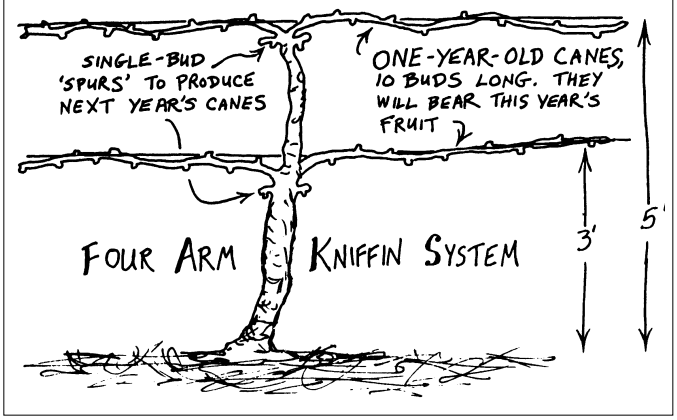
Pruning Grapes in the Four-Arm Kniffin System

First year: Cut plant back when planting to a single stem, 6" long with two to three buds, after the last danger of frost has passed.

Second year: Set up two wires, 3' and 5' high, stretched between posts. Cut plant back to a single stem, 6 feet long and tie it to the top wire. Leave 4–6 buds near each wire and remove others.

Third year: Select 8 canes, 4 for each wire, and remove the rest. Tie two canes to each wire, in each direction. Cut these 4 canes back to 10 buds each. Cut the remaining 4 canes back to 1–2 buds each.

Later years: In the spring, remove last year's fruiting canes. Select eight new canes. Cut 4 of them to 10 buds each, and tie them to your wires. Cut the remaining 4 back to 2 buds each. These will produce next year's fruiting canes. Remove all other canes. The number of buds left on the fruiting canes may be adjusted to encourage more fruit (leave more buds) or larger size (leave fewer buds).


SINGLE-BUD 'SPURS' TO PRODUCE NEXT YEAR'S CANES
ONE-YEAR-OLD CANES, 10 BUDS LONG. THEY WILL BEAR THIS YEAR'S FRUIT
FOUR ARM KNIFFIN SYSTEM
3'
5'

We owe thanks to our pollinators for giving us food to eat and seeds to grow. Bees, birds, bats, moths, flies and butterflies gather protein-rich pollen and sugary nectar from flower to flower while cross-pollinating our food crops and almost every plant we see (except of course those dependent on wind pollination.)

Yet many of our pollinator species are threatened, endangered or extinct from widespread chemical use on farms and gardens, genetically modified crops, and loss of habitat due to development. Bees are considered a "keystone" species, meaning that many other species depend on them for survival. Their extinction means our extinction. So why do we continue to harm them while at the same time demanding so much?

We can begin to help our pollinators by incorporating native plants back into our landscape and creating forage in places where it's lacking. We can make our gardens a natural habitat for insects rather than a toxic place that only exists for our enjoyment. It's a critical time to create gardens that mimic the native environment and help our suburbias (and farms!) be a little more natural. Below, we highlight some ways to encourage pollinators to come onto the scene and some of the plants that attract them.

Over millions of years, plants and pollinating insects have evolved together. Certain pollinators favor certain flowers depending on which colors they can see or which shapes their mouthparts fit into. Below we've outlined some patterns, but bear in mind it's only a rough guide—pollinators are not always picky and tend to jump around. Every visit to the garden is an opportunity to observe pollinator habits.

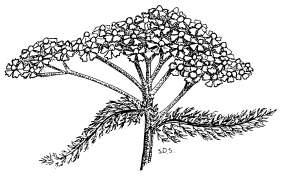
Nectar-rich flowers attract butterflies, which typically don't gather pollen, but extract nectar with long proboscises.

- Abelia (Abelia mosanensis)
- Butterfly Weed (Asclepias spp.)
- Butterfly Bush (Buddleia spp.)
- New Jersey Tea (Ceanothus americanus)
- Echinacea (Echinacea spp.)
- Joe Pye Weed (Eupatoreum spp.)
- Blazing Star (Liatris spp.)
- Mexican Sunflower (Tithonia rotundifolia)

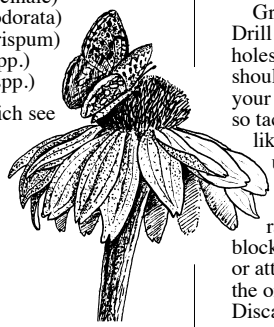
The nectar of **red tubular (trumpet-shaped) flowers** attract hummingbirds, which see red and have long narrow beaks that fit perfectly into deep flowers.

- Red Buckeye (Aesculus pavia)
- Wild Columbine (Aquilegia canadensis)
- Flowering quince (Chaenomeles spp.)
- Cardinal Flower (Lobelia cardinalis)
- Bee Balm (Monarda spp.)
- Weigela (Weigela florida)

Umbelliferous (umbrella-shaped) flowers attract beneficial insects such as parasitic wasps and syrphid flies that have small mouthparts that fit perfectly in the tiny little flowers. Not only are these insects good pollinators but also the best ecological pest management around!



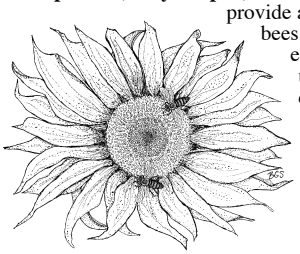
- Yarrow (Achillea millefolium)
- Dill (Anethum graveolens)
- Angelica (Angelica archangelica)
- Lovage (Levisticum officinale)
- Sweet Cicely (Myrrhis odorata)
- Parsley (Petroselinum crispum)
- Elderberry (Sambucus spp.)
- Viburnums (Viburnum spp.)



Purple and blue flowers are often pollinated by bees, which see the ultraviolet end of the spectrum.

- Monkshood (Aconitum carmichaelli)
- Blue False Indigo (Baptisia australis)
- Echinacea (Echinacea spp.)
- Hyssop (Hyssopus officinalis)
- Lavender (Lavandula spp.)
- Catmint (Nepeta faasenii)
- Russian Sage (Perovskia atriplicifolia)
- Baikal Skullcap (Scutellaria baicalensis)

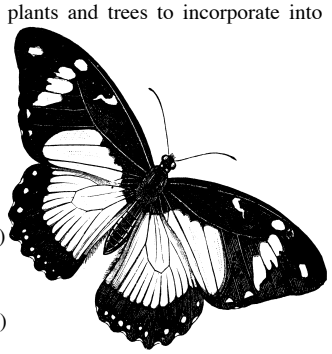
Composite (daisy-shaped) flowers attract many kinds of bees and also provide a sheltered sleeping place for male bumblebees, which don't return to the nest. At dusk or early morning they can be found tucked under the petals, sleeping soundly upside down.



- Arnica (Arnica chamissonis)
- Calendula (Calendula officinale)
- Echinacea (Echinacea spp.)
- Gaillardia (Gaillardia spp.)
- Sunflower (Helianthus annuus)
- Rudbeckia (Rudbeckia spp.)

Host Plants for Butterfly and Moth Larvae

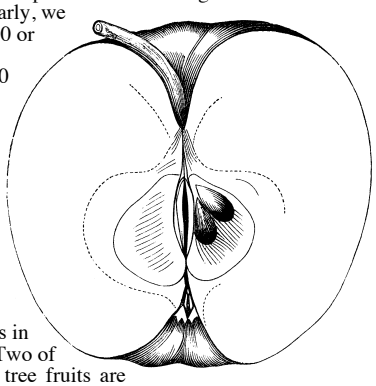
We often talk about nectar sources for butterflies and moths, but what about plants that feed their larvae? Certain host plants are required for the reproduction of this group of insects, the genus *Lepidoptera*. Host plants are always native because they have evolved over thousands of years with the dependent insects. While butterflies love the nectar of non-native *Buddleia*, they will never lay eggs on that plant because it is inedible to their larvae. Here are some important woody host plants and trees to incorporate into your landscape:



- Maple (Acer spp.)
- Birch (Betula spp.)
- Hickory (Carya spp.)
- Chestnut (Castanea spp.)
- Hawthorn (Crataegus spp.)
- Dogwood (Cornus spp.)
- Hazelnut (Corylus spp.)
- Spicebush (Lindera benzoin)
- Native Crabapple (Malus coronarius)
- Eastern White Pine (Pinus strobus)
- American Plum (Prunus americana)
- Oak (Quercus spp.)
- Black Locust (Robinia pseudoacacia)
- Willow (Salix spp.)
- Linden (Tilia americana)
- Elm (Ulmus americana)
- Blueberry (Vaccinium spp.)
- Viburnum (Viburnum spp.)

Native Pollinators for the Orchard

Each year it seems harder and harder to overwinter honeybee hives. While honeybees are not native to North America, they sure do a good job pollinating our agricultural food crops. It's hard to imagine a world without honey! Though we love them dearly, we must point out that it takes 10,000 or more honeybees to do the same amount of pollinating as only 250 native mason bees! Natives fly earlier and later in the day than honeybees and through wetter and colder conditions. Also, they are more successful pollinators because they carry pollen all over their bellies instead of in "pollen baskets" on their hind legs.

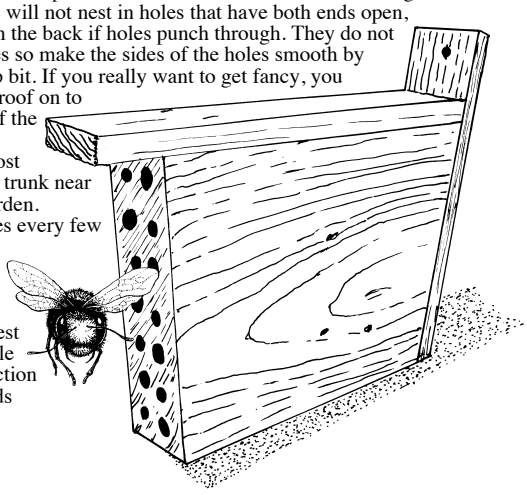


Most native bees are solitary dwellers, unlike the social honeybee. They have single nests in holes in wood or in the ground. Two of the best species for pollinating tree fruits are the **blue orchard mason bee** and the **leafcutter bee**. One way to encourage native bees is by growing plants that provide early-season forage, like **willows**, **dogwoods**, **amelanchiers** and **viburnums**. You can also invite bees to the garden or orchard by building simple nest boxes.

Building a wooden block nest box for solitary native bees

Of course native bees can find their own nesting spots, but it's easy to help them by drilling horizontal holes into fence posts or by making wooden block nest boxes.

Grab a random piece of *untreated* wood, 4x6" or so and at least 6" deep. Drill several holes of different sizes. Smaller bees nest in 3/32–1/4" diameter holes, 3–5" deep; larger bees need 1/4–3/8" diameter holes, 5–6" deep. Holes should be drilled 3/4" apart and this same distance from the edges. Choose your length. Bees will not nest in holes that have both ends open, so tack a board on the back if holes punch through. They do not like rough holes so make the sides of the holes smooth by using a sharp bit. If you really want to get fancy, you can throw a roof on to help keep off the rain. Mount block nest on a post or attach to a tree trunk near the orchard or garden. Discard nest boxes every few years so they don't build up with parasites or diseases.



Ready-made nest boxes are available from the OGS section of the Fedco Seeds catalog.

Trees, Shrubs, Roots and Vines

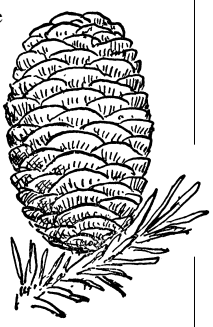
Trees, shrubs, roots and vines all intermingle, interact and cooperate with one another to make the landscape what it is—the ultimate polyculture—the model to which we aspire in our own yards. We offer the best of the best for you to create your own landscape. See our chart on pages 50–51 for information at a glance about the roles these plants can play.

In the past we've attempted to separate our offerings into categories and we were never quite satisfied. When does a small tree become a shrub? When does a large shrub become a tree? What about the roots that have vining tops? How do we categorize beautiful flowering trees that attract wildlife and produce fruit for the kitchen table? Where do we put the edible ornamentals? The ornamental edibles? Finding your favorite plant might seem difficult at first. But fret not: they are alphabetized by botanical (Latin) name. And you can find them all listed by common name as well as Latin in the **index inside the back cover**.

The listings in this section are well-rooted bare-root plants, unless otherwise noted.

Abelia mosanensis **Fragrant Abelia** 4-6' x same. Delicate showy exceedingly fragrant pink bell-shaped white-centered flowers bloom in late spring. Excellent for butterflies. *Arnoldia* editor Nancy Rose described the scent in a 2013 article: "…the best-scented common lilac…plus a hint of orange blossom, a drop of lily-of-the-valley…and a shot of tropical fruit." Somewhat loose plant with graceful arching stems. Glossy green foliage turns orange-red in fall. Flowers leave behind sepals that turn red and persist through fall adding texture—they look like a second set of flowers. Specimen or hedge plant. Full sun to partial shade. Easy to grow. Prune to shape after flowering. Tolerates most average soils but prefers acid, moist and well drained. Native to Korea. Z4. **ME Grown**. (1-3')

375A Abelia, $14.25



Abies balsamea **Balsam Fir** 45-75' Called *popakw*, the pitch tree, in Wabanaki. One of the most abundant of our native conifers. Twigs, inner bark, needles and sap are all medicinal. Small "blisters" contain a transparent aromatic resin that native peoples used as an inhalant for headaches and congestion and as a salve for cuts and arthritis. Needle tea is rich in vitamin C. The fragrant boughs are a favorite for wreaths; the needles used in scented pillows and potpourri. The best of all conifers for a Christmas tree! Narrow, conical, smooth-barked. Prefers well-drained moist acid soil. Avoid polluted areas. Semi-shade tolerant, slow-growing. Good hedge or specimen tree, songbird nesting area or rabbit thicket. Native Labrador to upper eastern U.S. Z3. (12-16")

376A Balsam Fir, bundle of 5, $19.00

Acer rubrum **Red Maple** 50-60' Also known as **Swamp Maple** or **Soft Maple**. Every spring we await the magical moment when the red maple's showy dark red flowers appear, long before any leaves. Excellent yard tree, usually has a central leader and an upright growth habit, compared to the bushier sugar maple. In the fall the foliage turns electric orange, yellow and brilliant red. Lumber makes beautiful flooring. Sometimes tapped for sap in spring. Inner bark can be used medicinally in teas. Transplants easily. Prefers moist acid conditions but is adaptable to dry locations. Note that this is *not* 'Crimson King', the abominable red-leaf Norway maple *A. platanoides*. (King's invasive, often green-leaved seedlings out-compete native understory species.) Native to eastern North America. Z3. **ME Grown**. (2-4')

377A Red Maple, $15.00

A. saccharinum **Silver Maple** 50-80' or more with a spread of 30-70' Large graceful fast-growing native shade tree was popular in the post-WWII landscape. Deeply lobed leaves are a daintier version of sugar maple's and have silvery undersides that glimmer and flash on windy days. Mature bark is grey, furrowed and somewhat shaggy, curling up at the ends of the scales. Naturally grows along streams and rivers, likes moist to wet even poorly drained soils but tolerates draught. Will grow in poor soils where many other large deciduous trees won't. Adaptable, low-maintenance and pollution-tolerant, makes a good street tree. Full sun to part shade. Limbs are sensitive to ice and snow loads so best to plant away from the house. Native to eastern North America. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-4')

378A Silver Maple, $18.00

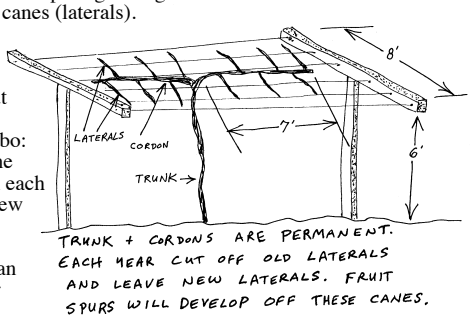
A. saccharum **Sugar Maple** 50-100' Largest of our native maples, also known as **Rock Maple**, valued for shade, syrup and lumber. Traditionally a pair of sugar maples was planted in front of a farmhouse on the inhabitants' wedding day. Those "wedding trees" still grace many Maine front yards. Famous for its yellow, gold, scarlet and crimson fall foliage and its fresh sap that's boiled down to make real maple syrup. Huge upright spreading form with light grey bark. Shade tolerant, making it easy to interplant in existing woods. Prefers moist, well-drained soils. Cold hardy. Sensitive to salt and air pollution; not a good city tree. Native Quebec to Gulf Coast. Z3. **ME Grown**. (2-4')

379A Sugar Maple, $18.00

Kiwis are dioecious vines, meaning male and female flowers are on separate plants, so you must plant a male plant to pollinate the fruiting female plants. They are extremely vigorous and require a rugged trellis or arbor and heavy pruning. Plant vines 10' apart each way in moist but well-drained soil. Kiwis are adaptable and tolerate a wide range of soil types (pH 5.0–6.5). One male will pollinate several females as long as they are within approximately 30' of the male. Although the vines are quite hardy, the flowers and foliage are frost sensitive. Planting on a northern exposure will delay budding in spring and reduce risk of frost damage. Protection from winter winds and intense winter sun is also recommended. Mulch with hay or wood chips. On poor soil fertilize with compost annually.

On a trellis: Train a single trunk to the trellis wires and then train two permanent 7–10' cordons (arms) off the trunk. Each winter remove at least 70% of old growth, leaving a dozen or so one-year-old laterals. That year's fruit will develop on fruit spurs growing off these one-year-old canes (laterals). Summer pruning may be required to keep extremely rampant vines from choking out your farm.

On an arbor or gazebo: Once established, prune 70% of the old growth each year and leave some new canes for this year's fruiting. *The Pruning Book* by Lee Reich is an excellent reference for pruning kiwis.



Actinidia **Hardy Kiwi** Productive twining vine climbs 20' or more and produces delicious kumkwat-sized kiwi fruits in late summer, so delicious that you might not be able to stop eating them! Unlike supermarket kiwis, the skin is smooth and edible. The longer they ripen on the vine, the sweeter they become. Easy to grow in rich well-drained soils. Will begin producing in 5–9 years. Mature plants may produce up to 100 lbs of fruit. Once vines are established, adequate pruning (see directions above) will significantly increase yields. No significant pest or disease problems. **Both male and female plants required for fruit.** One male will usually pollinate at least three females of the same species. The females bear the fruit. We offer two species. *Arguta* ripens around mid-September, has large fruit and is more vigorous than *kolomikta*. (*Argutas* can just about pull down a tree.) *Kolomikta* ripens around mid-August, has small fruit and is less vigorous but more cold-hardy than *arguta* and should thrive even in the northernmost districts. Native to eastern Asia. (well-rooted transplants)

A. arguta **'Ananasnaya' Female.** Also called **Anna**. Thought to be a hardy cross between *arguta* and *kolomikta*. In Russian, the name describes its taste: 'pineapple-like.' Tangy and sweet with rusty red skin. Heavy yields are late to ripen, very end of September or early October.

380A Ananasnaya Female Kiwi, $14.50

A. a. **'Geneva'** USDA selection 74-8. **Female.** Green-fleshed green-skinned with a reddish core. Tom Vigue says that this is one of the sweetest *argutas* he has tasted. Fruit shaped like truncated cone, narrow on the blossom end with wide shoulders at the stem. Ripens early, by mid-September most years.

381A Geneva Female Kiwi, $14.50

A. a. **'Meader'** Hardy fruitless **male** kiwi suitable for pollinating *arguta* females Anna and Geneva. Will not pollinate *kolomiktas*. Extremely vigorous vines are often grown just for their beautiful dark green ornamental foliage accentuated by reddish-pink petioles (leaf stalks). Z4.

382A Meader Male Kiwi, $14.50

A. kolomikta **'Red Beauty' Female.** Fruit is sweet and small, the size of a large grape. Medium-dark green foliage becomes showy red in autumn. Requires Arctic Beauty for pollination. Z3/4.

383A Red Beauty Female Kiwi, $14.50

A. k. **'Arctic Beauty'** Fruitless **male** pollinator for Red Beauty. Will not pollinate *argutas*. Often grown by itself as an ornamental for its beautiful foliage. Young leaves emerge purple, then become variegated pink, white and green, looking as though they've been dipped in paint. Heat, excessive fertilization or shade may reduce the leaf color. White 5-petaled 1/2" fragrant flowers. Z3/4.

384A Arctic Beauty Male Kiwi, $14.50

Fedco Trees 2015

PO Box 520 Waterville ME 04903

from mailing label CC- _____

Ordered by:

Farm or Group Name _____

Name _____

US Mail _____

Town _____ St _____ Zip _____

Deliver to:

UPS (include your road name) _____

Town _____ St _____ Zip _____

contact: _____ email _____

Order online
fedcoseeds.com
Check product availability.
Download catalogs and additional order sheets.

Delivery Options ✓ choose one:

- ❑ **Ship** in early to mid April.
- ❑ **Pickup** at Tree Sale in Clinton. Pay no shipping.
- ❑ **Ship** around May 6. (Add $25 fee to shipping charges.)

Substitutions (see p. 3) Yes No

I will accept a similar variety. ❑ ❑

I will accept similar rootstock. ❑ ❑

* Fedco members qualify for a 1% discount on all purchases. See page 7 for more information.

Volume Discounts
(only orders received by 1/16/15)
Subtotal over $200 take 10%
over $400 take 15%
over $1000 take 20%

Shipping Charges: (we ship by UPS or Priority Mail, our choice)

	minimum	if your **Adjusted Total** is
Continental United States	$20.00	over $134.00, pay 15% of adjusted total

Orders to **Alaska** go Priority Mail; be sure we have a *Postal Address*

	minimum	if your **Adjusted Total** is
Priority Mail	$25.00	over $125.00, pay 20% of adjusted total

Small & Light: All your stock numbers begin with **L**.

	minimum	if your **Adjusted Total** is
Small & Light	$10.00	over $67.00, pay 15% of adjusted total

Subtotal from reverse		
Volume Discount	–	
* **1% Member Discount**, from Subtotal	–	
Adjusted Total	=	
ME residents & pickups add 5.5% **Tax**	+	
Shipping	+	
Total	=	
Donate to MeHO Maine Heritage Orchard, see pp. 2, 19	+	
Grand Total	=	

Make checks payable to **Fedco**

Final order deadline March 6, 2015

- **See complete ordering information on page 3.**
- For early delivery of rootstock or for scionwood, order online or use the other form (p. 37) in this catalog.
- If you require Priority Mail delivery, minimum shipping charge is $25 or 20% for orders with an adjusted total over $125.
- We will add a $10 handling fee each time you ask us to make adjustments after we have received your order.
- We ship between April 2 and April 17; we will add a $15 handling fee if you specify a particular shipping date within this period. If you choose our late shipment around May 6, the charge is $25.
- Consider donating your refund to MeHO (the Maine Heritage Orchard) at MOFGA (the Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association.)

Help support the Maine Heritage Orchard:
❑ Donate all my refund to MeHO
❑ up to $5.00
❑ up to $2.00

We accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover Card

Exp. Date

Fedco Trees 2015: Trees, Shrubs & Plants

	Item #	Number of pkgs.	Number of plants	Description	Price per package	Total Price
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
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21						
22						
23						
24						
25						
26						
27						
28						

If you are ordering more than 28 items, you may copy this page or our format and submit as many pages as you need.

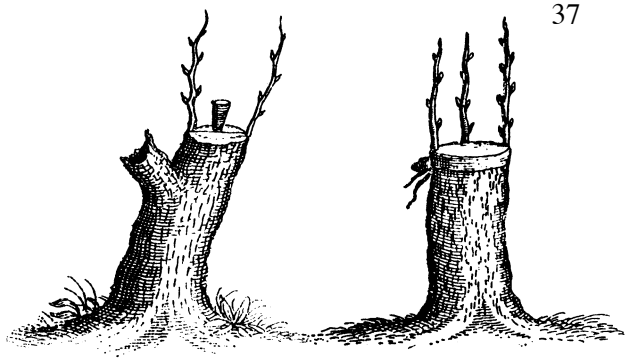
Subtotal
(carry to other side)

If you order *only* item numbers beginning with L, you qualify for our reduced shipping rate. See other side for details.

Suggestions:

Fedco Trees 2015
Scionwood

PO Box 520 Waterville ME 04903



from mailing label CC _____

Deliver to:

Farm or Group Name _____

Name _____

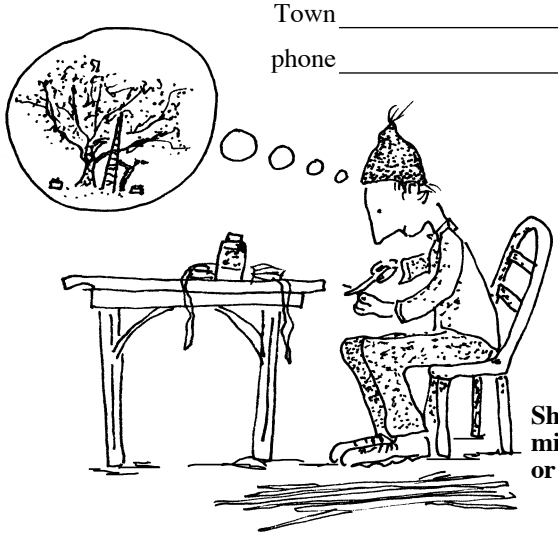
US Mail _____

Town _____ St _____ Zip _____

Ordering rootstock? Give us a
UPS address if different: Street _____

Town _____ St _____ Zip _____

phone _____ email _____



Scionwood Total (from reverse)	+
Rootstock Total (from reverse)	+
Subtotal	=
1% Member discount	-
Adjusted Total	=
Maine residents **only** add 5.5% **Tax**	+
Shipping: **minimum charge $10.00** **or 15% of Adjusted Total over $67.00**	+
Grand Total	=

Make checks payable to **Fedco**

Deadline Feb. 20, 2015, for ordering scionwood and rootstock for shipment around March 19, 2015.

Scionwood, or scions, are twigs for grafting. They are $5 each and are approximately 8" long.

For larger quantities consider buying by the foot: 10-foot minimum per variety, $4.50 per foot.

Scionwood quantities are limited, order early. We try to provide wood that is close to 1/4" in diameter. When only smaller diameter wood is available, we send it out. If you do not want smaller diameter wood, please note that on your order and we'll refund your payment.

- **Upon receiving your order**, please inspect your scionwood immediately. Any shipping errors, unlabeled scionwood, or scion abnormalities should be reported to Fedco Trees ASAP.
- **Store scionwood** in a dark location with temperatures between 32 and 38° in triple plastic bags. Your scionwood should remain viable well into May.
- **For more information about varieties**, please check our website: fedcoseeds.com/trees.
- **For grafting supplies and literature**, please refer to the Organic Growers Supply section of the Fedco Seeds catalog.
- **If you'd like to learn more about grafting**, please join us on March 29, 2015, at The Scionwood Exchange at MOFGA's Common Ground, or check our website in March for a list of spring grafting classes in Maine.

Help support the Maine Heritage Orchard:

❑ Donate all my refund to MeHO
❑ up to $5.00
❑ up to $2.00

We accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover Card

Exp. Date

Fedco Trees 2015: Scionwood

Apples	How many sticks	How many feet
L-801 Alexander		
L-802 Arkansas Black		
L-803 Ashmead's Kernel		
L-804 Ashton Bitter		
L-805 Baldwin		
L-806 Belle De Boskoop		
L-807 Ben Davis		
L-808 Blue Pearmain		
L-809 Bramtot		
L-810 Briggs Auburn		
L-811 Brock		
L-812 Calville Blanc d'Hiver		
L-813 Canadian Strawberry		
L-814 Charette		
L-815 Chenango Strawberry		
L-816 Chestnut		
L-817 Chisel Jersey		
L-818 Coles Quince		
L-819 Collins (Cherryfield)		
L-820 Cortland		
L-821 Cox's Orange Pippin		
L-822 Dabinett		
L-823 Deane		
L-824 Duchess of Oldenburg		
L-825 Dudley Winter		
L-826 Ellis Bitter		
L-827 Esopus Spitzenburg		
L-828 Fall Jenneting		
L-829 Fameuse		
L-830 Fletcher Sweet		
L-831 Garden Royal		
L-832 Golden Russet		
L-833 GoldRush		
L-834 Granite Beauty		
L-835 Gravenstein		
L-836 Gray Pearmain		
L-837 Grimes Golden		
L-838 Harry Masters Jersey		
L-839 Hayford		
L-840 Honeycrisp		
L-841 Hudson's Golden Gem		
L-842 Hurlbut		
L-843 Idared		
L-844 Jonathan		
L-845 Kavanagh		
L-846 Keepsake		
L-847 Kennebec Russet		
L-848 King David		
L-849 King of Tompkins County		
L-850 Kingston Black		
L-851 Koidu Reinette		
L-852 Legace		
L-853 Liberty		
L-854 Lincolnville Russet		
L-855 Maiden Blush		
L-856 Major		
Column 1 Total		

	How many sticks	How many feet
L-857 Mantet		
L-858 Marlboro		
L-859 McIntosh		
L-860 Medaille d'Or		
L-861 Michelin		
L-862 Moses Wood		
L-863 Newt Grindle		
L-864 Nodhead		
L-865 Northern Spy		
L-866 Nutting Bumpus		
L-867 Opalescent		
L-868 Pewaukee		
L-869 Pomme d'Or		
L-870 Pomme Grise		
L-871 Porter		
L-872 Pound Sweet		
L-873 Priscilla		
L-874 Red Astrichan		
L-875 Red Baron		
L-876 Red Blaze		
L-877 Red Canada		
L-878 Red Gravenstein		
L-879 Red St. Lawrence		
L-880 Redfield		
L-881 Reinette Simarenko		
L-882 Rhode Island Greening		
L-883 Ribston Pippin		
L-884 Rolfe		
L-885 Rome		
L-886 Roxbury Russet		
L-887 Sand Hill		
L-888 Scott's Winter		
L-889 Sidrunkollane Talioun		
L-890 Somerset of Maine		
L-891 Spencer		
L-892 Spice Sweet		
L-893 Stark		
L-894 Starkey		
L-895 Striped Harvey		
L-896 Summer Sweeting		
L-897 Sweet Red		
L-898 Sweet Sal		
L-899 Sweet Sixteen		
L-900 Tolman Sweet		
L-901 Trailman		
Column 2 Total		

Scionwood sticks are around 8" long with a 1/4" caliper when possible. $5.00/stick.

For larger quantities, order by the foot (10' minimum) for $4.50/foot.

	How many sticks	How many feet
L-902 Twenty Ounce		
L-903 Wagener		
L-904 Wardwell Sweet		
L-905 Washington Sweet		
L-906 Wealthy		
L-907 Whitney		
L-908 Wickson		
L-909 Williams Pride		
L-910 Winekist		
L-911 Winter Banana		
L-912 Wolf River		
L-913 Yarlington Mill		
L-914 Yellow Bellflower		
L-915 Zachary		
Plums		
L-916 Cocheco		
L-917 Ember		
L-918 Gracious		
L-919 Grenville		
L-920 Hanska		
L-921 Kahinta		
L-922 La Crescent		
L-923 Monitor		
L-924 Pembina		
L-925 Purple Heart		
L-926 South Dakota		
L-927 Superior		
L-928 Tecumseh		
L-929 Toka		
L-930 Underwood		
L-931 Waneta		
L-932 Lombard		
L-933 Opal		
L-934 Stanley		
Column 3 Total		
Total Number Ordered		
Sticks x $5.00		
Feet x $4.50		

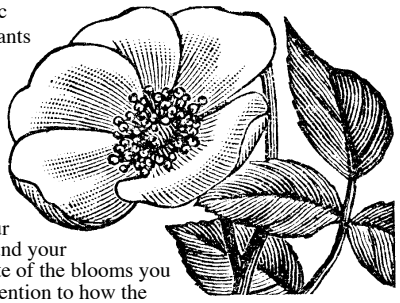
Minimum 10 feet per variety

ROOTSTOCK—bundle of 10

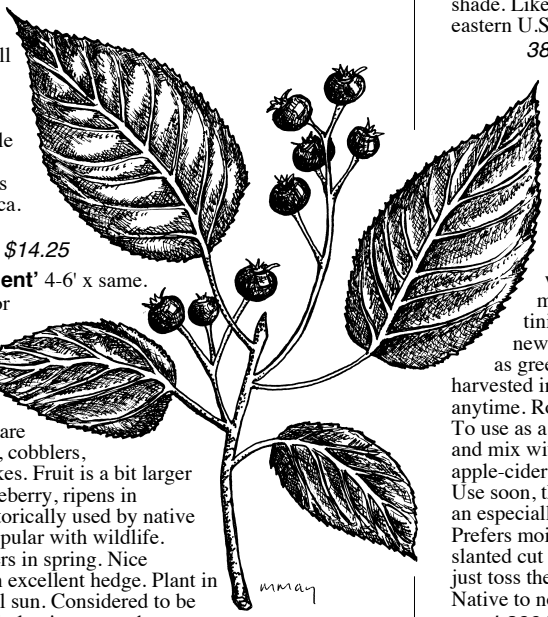
Rootstock is approximately 1/4" caliper.
See page 20 for descriptions.

		Price	#	$Total
232-B	Malus antonovka	$35.00		
233-B	M. Budagovsky 118	$35.00		
234-B	Malus M111	$35.00		
235-B	Malus Geneva 11	$39.00		
236-B	M. Budagovsky 9	$35.00		
237-B	Prunus americana	$35.00		
238-B	Prunus avium	$35.00		
239-B	P. cerasifera	$35.00		
240-B	Pyrus OHxF 97	$35.00		
	Bundles Ordered			

Bloom times for specific fruiting and ornamental plants are noted based on plants growing in our area. Even these are not set in stone. This year, most blooms were three weeks "late." Nature doesn't keep a calendar. If learning about bloom times is important for you in establishing your seasonal garden, look around your neighborhood and take note of the blooms you see in each season. Pay attention to how the weather from year to year affects the plants' timing.



Aesculus pavia **Red Buckeye** 10-20' x same. Handsome single- or double-stemmed shrub or small tree with showy erect 4" red or pinkish-red narrow tubular flowers in spring. Will attract the ruby-throated hummingbirds just as they are returning to the yard. Lovely and graceful palmately compound shiny dark green serrated leaves with deeply grooved veins droop and slightly curl. 1–2" smooth brown seed capsules (the buckeyes) were once considered a good luck charm by the Cherokee and thought to ward off rheumatism. good specimen tree or for screens and hedges. Prefers moist fertile soil but will tolerate clay. Full sun, but in hotter drier areas it will appreciate partial shade and occasional watering. Susceptible to leaf blotch in wet summers; rake fallen leaves to control this fungus. Native to North America. Z4. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

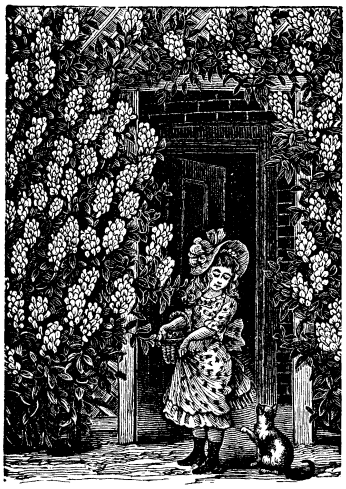


385A Red Buckeye, $14.25

Amelanchier alnifolia **'Regent'** 4-6' x same. Commonly called **Juneberry** or **Saskatoon**. J. Candrian intro, Faribault, MN, 1997. An open-pollinated seedling originating near Regent, ND. Compact shrub with purple-magenta sweet berries that are good for fresh eating or in pies, cobblers, jellies, jams, smoothies and cakes. Fruit is a bit larger and seedier than a lowbush blueberry, ripens in mid-July in central Maine. Historically used by native peoples to make pemmican. Popular with wildlife. Loads of 5-petaled white flowers in spring. Nice red-orange fall color. Makes an excellent hedge. Plant in well-drained fertile soil and full sun. Considered to be self-fruitful but we recommend planting more than one for best fruit sets. Foliage somewhat susceptible to leaf spot or rust but this doesn't affect the fruit. Native to northwestern North America. Z2. (1-3')

386A Regent Juneberry, $15.00

Apios americana **Groundnut** Nitrogen-fixing leguminous perennial twining vine with edible tubers. Grows to about 5' long. Roots grow 1–6" deep and have periodic swellings (the groundnuts) that range from marble size to larger than a golf ball. These edible tubers can be harvested any time of year. Delicious, high in starch and protein. Peel them first, then eat them boiled, roasted, baked, mashed, sliced, diced or even puréed. Not recommended raw. Will keep a month or more in the fridge or root cellar, or dry them and they keep forever. An essential food for Native Americans for hundreds of years; also essential to the survival of the first European settlers in New England. Small maroon, pink and violet flowers appear in late August in central Maine. Followed by 2–4" bean pods. Prefers moist sandy soil. Full to partial sun. Keep it out of your garden as it will spread. Can be vigorous and requires a trellis of some sort. Native to river banks and flood plains, southern Canada, eastern and midwestern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (tubers)



L387A Groundnut, bundle of 5, $15.00

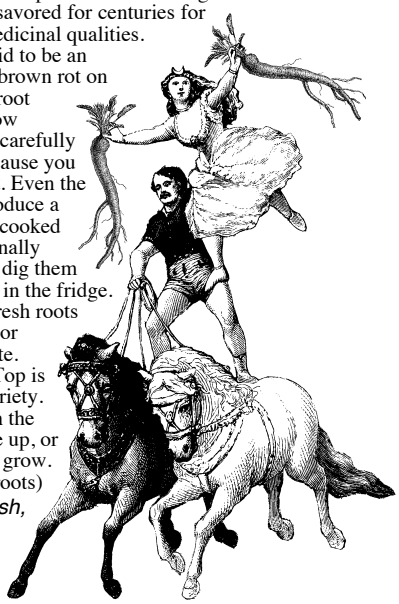
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi **Bearberry** Also called **Kinnikinick**, **Hog Cranberry**, **Mealberry**, **Sandberry**, **Mountain Box** or **Bear's Grape**. Delicate low-growing beautiful glossy evergreen spreading groundcover. One plant can spread to 15'. Small pinkish-white flowers in spring. Leaves are diuretic, astringent and antibacterial. Used before modern antibiotics in treating urinary infections. Tea may also have value as a general tonic. Small bright red drupe-type berries color up in late summer and persist into winter. Too insipid for fresh eating, but traditionally eaten by natives, often fried with fish. Prefers poor sandy infertile acid soils, tolerates salt. Can be sensitive to root disturbance, thus finicky in transplanting and may be slow to establish. Beautiful in rock gardens. Set plants 1–2' apart. No need ever to prune or fertilize. Sun or partial shade. Self-fertile, native to North America and Eurasia. Z2. **ME Grown.** (well-rooted transplants)

L388A Bearberry, $14.25

Aristolochia durior **Dutchman's Pipe** 20-30' Also called **Pipe Vine**. Vigorous climber with large wonderful 4–10" heart-shaped dark green leaves. Once established, it will cover the porch, trellis or gazebo every summer. Beware though—one vine can peel the shingles right off the side of your house! Provides all the privacy you ever wanted even if you live right in town. Inconspicuous U-shaped tubular white and mahogany flowers in clusters of 1–3 look like "Dutchman's Pipes." Sun or shade. Thrives in shade. Likes well-drained soil with adequate moisture. Native to eastern U.S. Z4. (well-rooted transplants)

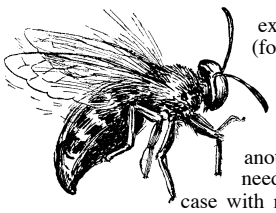
389A Dutchman's Pipe, $17.50

Armoracia rusticana **'Big Top' Horseradish** Exceptionally vigorous perennial with large dock-like leaves and spicy hot roots, savored for centuries for their culinary and medicinal qualities. Horseradish tea is said to be an effective control for brown rot on stone fruit. Deep taproot with numerous shallow runner roots. Choose carefully where you plant it because you may never get it all out. Even the tiniest root piece will produce a new plant. Leaves can be cooked as greens. Roots are traditionally harvested in the fall, but you can dig them anytime. Roots keep 3–4 months in the fridge. To use as a stimulant, grate the fresh roots and mix with a little lemon juice or apple-cider vinegar and refrigerate. Use soon, then make more. Big Top is an especially disease-resistant variety. Prefers moist rich soil. Plant with the slanted cut down and the flat side up, or just toss them in and watch them grow. Native to northern Europe. Z3. (roots)



L390A Big Top Horseradish, bundle of 5, $18.00

How does all this pollination stuff work, anyway?



Self-pollinating, **self-fertile** and **self-fruitful** all mean the same thing. You can plant a self-fertile tree and expect it to pollinate itself and set fruit alone (for example, peaches, pie cherries, apricots). However, many self-fertile trees' fruit sets are enhanced with multiple plantings (elderberries and amelanchiers).

Self-sterile or **self-infertile** means that another tree of a different cultivar or variety is needed to set fruit (cross-pollinate). This is the case with most apples. **Monoecious** (from Greek meaning 'one household') plants have their female and male parts on separate flowers both together on the same plant. In most cases, these plants are self-fertile, but not always! (Black walnuts are monoecious but the male flower releases pollen before the female flowers open, so having two plants is better than one). **Dioecious** (meaning 'two households') plants have either all male or all female flowers on separate individuals. You would need to plant one female and one male to achieve pollination. When you buy unsexed seedlings, you generally have a 50-50 chance of getting one gender or the other (ginkgo, spicebush, bayberry, sea buckthorn). **Bisexual** or **perfect** flowers contain both male and female components within the same flower. Some plants with perfect flowers will be self-fertile, some will not. Often, specific cultivars or varieties have perfect flowers but they cannot pollinate themselves and need other varieties to assist them (apples and blueberries).

***Aronia* Chokeberry** Aronia has gotten a lot of press in recent years as a superfruit: it has wonderful medicinal qualities, works well in a range of culinary applications and is an important wildlife plant in the native landscape. Both red (*A. arbutifolia*) and black (*A. melanocarpa*) chokeberries are edible when cooked, but we emphasize the red as more of a wildlife and landscape plant, while the black may be a better choice for medicine and food. Black chokeberries are commercially cultivated for their high levels of antioxidants and myriad health benefits. Both species are small rounded shrubs with blueberry-sized fruit and show-stopping electric-red fall foliage.

Begins to bear fruit in its third year and increases to full yield around five years. Ripens in late July or early August. If not harvested, the berries will hang on the bushes until songbirds eat them in late winter. Will form colonies. Not particularly picky about where it grows. Adaptable to wet or dry areas, sun or partial shade. Free of diseases and insects. Native to eastern U.S. Self-fruitful. Z3/4. (1-3')

***A. arbutifolia* 'Brilliantissima'** 6-8' x 3-4' In his book *Best of the Hardiest*, John Sabuco calls red chokeberry "one of our finest native landscape shrubs." Upright multi-stemmed form. Dense clusters of small but showy white flowers with red stamens. Birds love the abundant persistent glossy bright red fruit. With "brilliant" fall foliage, this plant is the best alternative to the invasive burning bush. **ME Grown**.

391A Brilliantissima Red Chokeberry, $14.25

***A. a.* Red Chokeberry Seedlings** 6-10' x 3-6' Each one is genetically unique. Beautiful in mass plantings and borders. Plant several in a hedge and make the birds happy! **ME Grown.**

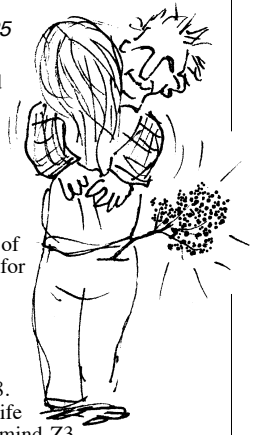
392A Red Chokeberry Seedlings, $13.50
392B Red Chokeberry Seedlings, bundle of 5, $55.00

***A. melanocarpa* 'Autumn Magic'** 3-6' x 4-7' University of British Columbia intro, 1996. Compact shrub selected for its brilliant (magical) combination of red and purple fall foliage. Fruit may be slightly larger than average.

393A Autumn Magic Black Chokeberry, $14.25

***A. m.* 'Hugin'** 3-4' x same. Swedish Agricultural University selection from wild plant material collected on Walpole Island in Ontario, Canada. Rare. Compact habit and large fruit. Sometimes listed in the trade as *A. prunifolia* and thought to be a natural hybrid between *melanocarpa* and *arubutifolia*. **ME Grown.**

394A Hugin Black Chokeberry, $14.25



***A. m.* 'Iroquois Beauty'®** 3x5' or less. Morton Arboretum intro, Lisle, IL. A smaller dwarfed version of the other cultivars, has a more compact habit, suitable for growing in smaller spaces. Excellent black fruit and beautiful foliage. **ME Grown**.

395A Iroquois Beauty Black Chokeberry, $14.25

***A. m.* 'McKenzie'** 5-10' x same. Bismarck, ND, 2008. Cultivar selected for use in farm windbreaks and wildlife conservation plantings. Extremely hardy, they don't mind Z3 winters and wind. This medium-sized shrub fruits abundantly. The name comes from the North Dakota site where the original seedlings were planted in 1976 and still thrive today. **ME Grown**.

396A McKenzie Black Chokeberry, $14.25

***A. m.* 'Viking'** 4-6' x same. Introduced in Sweden. Upright vigorous shrub produces good-tasting berries. High-yielding. **ME Grown**.

397A Viking Black Chokeberry, $14.25

***A. m.* Black Chokeberry Seedlings** 3-6' x same. Each one is genetically unique. Plant several for an attractive edible hedge. **ME Grown**.

398A Black Chokeberry Seedlings, $13.50
398B Black Chokeberry Seedlings, bundle of 5, $55.00

Asparagus requires fertile soil with pH 6.8–7.2 and high levels of phosphorus. John recently visited friends who added Biochar to their soil. Wow, were their roots beefy! Asparagus doesn't like weed competition. Plant when you receive your order or as soon as the ground can be worked. Plant 14–18" apart, 6–10" deep, in trenches 4' apart. Or dig your trenches somewhat deeper and fill the bottom with 4" of compost and rotted manure. Lay plants with crown up and cover with 2" of soil. Plants emerge very slowly. As young shoots grow, add soil gradually, just covering the shoots, until the trench is full. In late fall, remove dead stalks and mulch with 3" of manure.

Second summer: Add lime, rock fertilizers and nitrogen as needed. Control weeds but do not injure crowns.

Later years: Same routine but increase fertilizer. Be sure to leave some spears each year to grow stalks that will support the roots and give you more spears next year. Keep the bed weed-free and mulched heavily.

New research shows that asparagus can be selectively harvested for 2 weeks during the second growing season, for 4 weeks in the third, and a full season thereafter. We recommend caution in harvesting. Before the third or fourth season, harvest only the largest shoots from vigorous plants so the young plants can establish themselves. Uncut shoots become a light green feathery hedge, a beautiful backdrop to a flower garden. Honeybees love the dainty dangling flowers of asparagus.

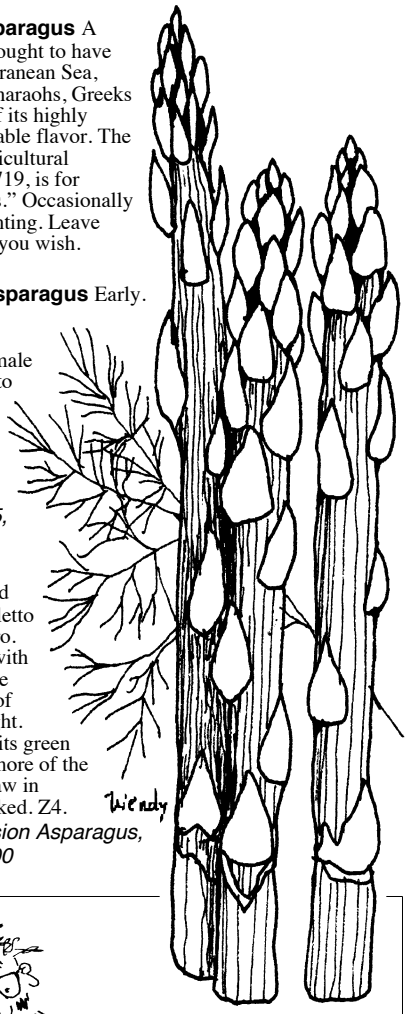
***Asparagus officinalis* Asparagus** A spring staple for millennia, thought to have originated around the Mediterranean Sea, perhaps in Asia Minor. The pharaohs, Greeks and Romans were all aware of its highly nutritious qualities and delectable flavor. The earliest known American horticultural advertisement, from March 1719, is for "English Sparrow-grass Roots." Occasionally females will show up in a planting. Leave them be or rogue them out as you wish. (large-rooted 1-yr crowns)

***A. o.* 'Jersey Supreme' Asparagus** Early. Rutgers U. release in 2000, All-male hybrid that is more productive than the older all-male varieties. Excellent tolerance to asparagus rust and fusarium crown rot. Produces high yields of large-diameter tender spears in spring. Z4.

L400A Jersey Supreme Asparagus, bundle of 25, $25.00

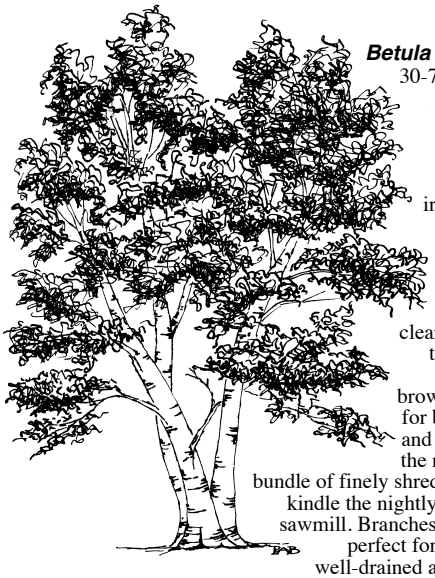
***A. o.* 'Purple Passion' Asparagus** Early. Developed from the Italian heirloom Violetto di Albenga. Brian Benson intro. Very large deep purple stalk with a creamy white interior. Purple asparagus are actually a type of white asparagus shown the light. Sweeter and less stringy than its green counterparts, so you can use more of the spear. Tender enough to eat raw in salads. Turns green when cooked. Z4.

L401A Purple Passion Asparagus, bundle of 25, $25.00



Save your old Fedco catalogs

Every year we spend a lot of time writing sidebars with tips and other information on selecting, planting, growing and cooking the plants we offer. While we do repeat some of that information every year, much of it we do not. Please keep your old catalogs. They can be a good reference. Maybe someday you can sell them on eBay and pay for your retirement! Much of this information is also on the fedcoseeds.com website.



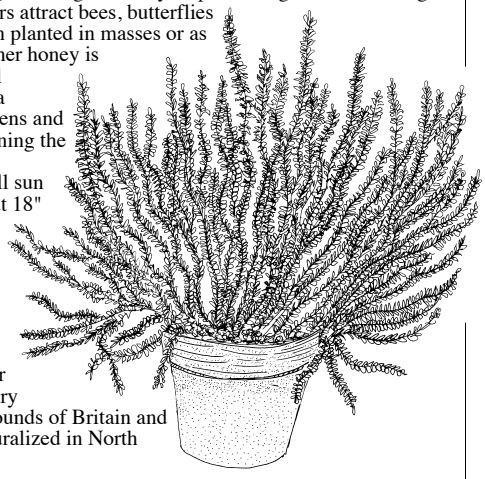
***Betula papyrifera* Paper Birch** 30-70' x 30' Also called **Canoe Birch** or **White Birch**. The classic birch tree. Elegant as a single- or multi-stemmed specimen, medium-sized tree with an irregular oval shape, upright angled branches and magnificent chalk-white peeling bark. Deep green foliage produces light shade in summer and turns clear yellow in fall. Birds prize the catkins, buds and seeds. Twigs are a favorite deer browse. Bark traditionally used for building canoes, containers and roofing. When traveling in the north country, keep a small bundle of finely shredded bark in your pocket to kindle the nightly fire. Valuable wood at the sawmill. Branches, stuck into the ground, are perfect for pea fencing. Prefers moist well-drained acid soil though we've seen it thrive on ledge. Native to northern North America. Z3. (2-3')

403A Paper Birch, $12.00

***Buddleia davidii* 'Bicolor' Butterfly Bush** 5-8' x same. Selection of Honeycomb. Michael Dirr intro. Colorful attractive arching shrub with 4–6" panicles of fragrant flowers in midsummer that are guaranteed to attract zillions of butterflies, bees and hummingbirds. Each two-toned spike-like panicle includes both butterscotch-yellow and lavender flowers. Velvety soft blue-green foliage has silver undersides. In central Maine, blossoms peak in late summer and continue through a few light frosts. Blooms earlier in the south. Recommended for shrub or perennial borders. Very adaptable but begs for full sun. Can become a nuisance in southern states but not so in New England where it dies back to the ground each winter. Treat as an herbaceous perennial. New leaves emerge late—sometime in early June. Blooms on new wood come summer. Native to China. Z4/5. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

404A Bicolor Butterfly Bush, $15.00

***Calluna vulgaris* Heather** Magical, mythical and medicinal evergreen groundcover features a spread of flowers ranging through the colors of the rainbow in late summer. Colorful foliage in autumn. Each year we vary our selection but always offer the hardiest varieties proven to flourish in northern climates. Revered in the British Isles, important medicinally in teas, liniments and ointments. First fermented a few thousand years ago, used in gruit, ale, and might be the original ingredient for the first whiskey. Branches used in thatching, bedding, basketry, rope-making, broom-making and even insulation. Flowers attract bees, butterflies and moths, especially when planted in masses or as low-growing hedges. Heather honey is highly prized for medicinal benefit. Recommended as a groundcover, for rock gardens and edges of paths—or for opening the portals to the fairy world! Requires acidic soil and full sun to partial shade. Plant about 18" apart each way and let it spread. Mix peat into the soil to lower the pH if necessary—see planting instructions for cranberries and blueberries. Does not like high fertility or wet spots. Shear every April for best bloom. Native to the dry forests, heaths and bare grounds of Britain and Ireland. More recently naturalized in North America. Z4. (4" pots)



***C. v.* 'County Wicklow'** 12x18" Large light pink bell-shaped flowers double up along branches of rich green foliage. Double flower pattern against dark foliage accentuates the structure of the plant and distinguishes it from others. Named after the the county in Ireland where it originated.

L405A County Wicklow Heather, $11.00

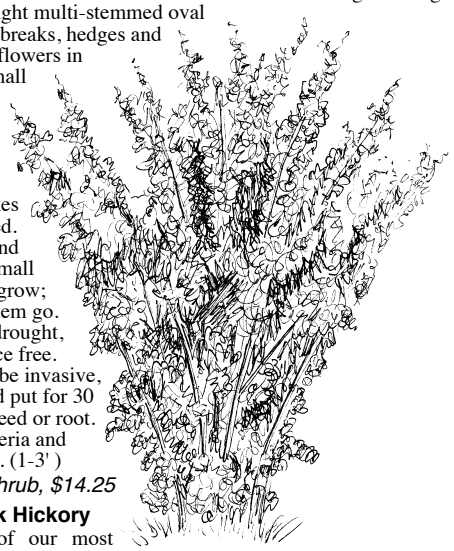
***C. v.* 'Flamingo'** 12x20" In spring new growth emerges "Flamingo" pink, vibrant and bright, almost magenta with hints of orange. Overall color shifts to lavender when flowers emerge in August. Dark green foliage.

L406A Flamingo Heather, $11.00

Plant Sizes

All of our woody plants are well-rooted bare-root plants. Some shrubs will be a bit shorter than these specs and some hardwoods will be much taller. Because of the nature of dealing with living commodities, size variations will naturally occur within each crop.

***Caragana arborescens* Siberian Peashrub** 15-20' Nitrogen-fixing cheerful bright green upright multi-stemmed oval shrub well-suited to windbreaks, hedges and borders. Delicate yellow flowers in spring are followed by small seed pods that turn a golden yellow. The pods and the small "peas" are edible; eaten raw, they taste like garden peas, though not as sweet. Makes an acceptable chicken feed. Silvery bark and compound foliage, each with 8–12 small obovate leaflets. Easy to grow; just put them in and let them go. Adaptable to poor soils, drought, salt. Full sun. Maintenance free. Occasionally rumored to be invasive, although ours have stayed put for 30 years and not spread by seed or root. Self-fertile. Native to Siberia and Manchuria. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1-3')



407A Siberian Peashrub, $14.25

***Carya ovata* Shagbark Hickory** 60-80' or taller. One of our most beautiful native nut trees. Straight trunked and draped with branches that curve skyward at the tips. An understated tree but one with great presence. Not only does the bark shag, it looks as though huge long strips are about to fall off. After the tree reaches bearing age, about 40 years, it will shower the yard with its sweet edible nuts. Those left unharvested germinate in the gardens, planted by local creatures, some four legged, some two. Rich yellow or golden fall foliage. Slow-growing but very long-lived. Tough wood used for making tool handles. Prefers rich well-drained loam, but adaptable. Self-pollinating. Native to eastern U.S. Z4. (1-3')

408A Shagbark Hickory, $14.00

***Castanea dentata* American Chestnut** Up to 100' Before 1900 American chestnut was one of the most important deciduous trees in the eastern U.S. The arrow-straight rot-resistant wood was used for everything from mine timbers to musical instruments. Delicious sweet nuts were an important food for wildlife and humans. The Asian fungus *Endothia parasitica* (chestnut blight) was discovered in Brooklyn in 1904; within 50 years it killed virtually every chestnut tree in the eastern U.S. The blight does not kill the roots however, and rare isolated stands of mature trees can still be found. The trees we're offering are not immune to blight but were harvested from healthy trees and will likely thrive if there is no active blight infection within a mile. Fast-growing and straight-trunked with a wide-branching magnificent rounded crown. Fragrant white blooms in July. Ribbed sharp-toothed lustrous dark green foliage. Yellow fall color. Prefers well-drained acid soil. Two or more needed for pollination but will cross-pollinate with Asian and European chestnuts. Precocious, bearing heavy crops of nuts in 10 years. Z4. (1-3')

409A American Chestnut, $20.00

***Catalpa speciosa* Northern Catalpa** 40-60' Also known as **Western Catalpa**, **Elephant Ear Tree**, **Catawba** and **Cigar Tree**. Fast-growing coarse habit with a somewhat narrow open irregular crown and thick interesting undulant branches. Dense foliage of huge "elephant ear" heart-shaped leaves provides excellent shade. Covered in early summer with clusters of ruffled incredibly fragrant jasmine-scented white blossoms each dotted with purple and spotted with rich buttery yellow radiating from the throat. Flowers attract bees by day and moths by night. Fruits are long bean-like "cigar" pods. The wood is extremely resistant to rot and was once used to make railroad ties in the Midwest. Prefers deep moist fertile soil, but thrives in almost any condition and soil, sun or partial shade. Grows rapidly. Remains dormant late into spring. Self-fertile. Native to central U.S. Z4. (2-4')

410A Northern Catalpa, $18.00

***Ceanothus americanus* New Jersey Tea** 2-3' x same. Small compact shrub bearing white odorless panicles of 1–2" long flowers from late June into July. Attracts a wide assortment of pollinators. William Cullina of Boothbay Botanical Garden considers it among his top 10 for butterfly gardens. Dark green narrow leaves were used as a substitute for tea during the American Revolution and long before then for medicinal use among Native Americans. Leaves have prominent venation that turn to shades of yellow in fall. Grows in depleted infertile soil and especially well in dry acidic conditions. Deep vigorous roots make it a great candidate for sandy slopes where stabilization is needed. Full to partial sun. Native to North America. Z4. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

411A New Jersey Tea, $14.25

ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

Cercidiphyllum japonicum **Katsura Tree** 40-60' x 20-30' One of the most prized of all ornamental trees and a common sight in the Japanese garden. Multi-trunked with a pyramidal to wide-spreading form. Beautiful drooping heart-shaped foliage emerges a glowing reddish-purple, becoming bluish-green during the summer and then a delightful apricot-yellow in fall. Leaves flutter in the breeze, shimmering and reflecting light. Fallen leaves exude the sweet fragrance of caramelized sugar. Shaggy bark. Michael Dirr wrote that if he had to pick one favorite tree, it would be the katsura tree: "overwhelming in overall attractiveness." It's worth the drive to Asticou Azalea Garden on Mount Desert to see the mature specimen by the pond. Prefers rich moist well-drained soil. Supplemental watering during the first couple of years will help the young tree get established. After that, it'll be fast growing. Native to eastern Asia. Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-4')

412A Katsura Tree, $18.00

Cercis canadensis **Redbud** 25-30' x same. Small vase-shaped single- or multi-stemmed tree is highly ornamental with edible flowers and seeds. In early spring, clusters of small brilliant purplish-pink pea-like flowers are so abundant they fill the entire tree, dotting the branches and even coming right out of the trunk. Flowers edible raw or cooked. 2–3" flat leguminous pods with roastable edible seeds high in antioxidants. Nitrogen-fixing tree is also valuable as an early-season nectar plant for bees. Large heart-shaped leaves emerge opaque pink, mature to deep green and turn yellow in fall. Smooth dark bark becomes plated and brick-red with purple undertones. Sun or partial shade, soil adaptable. Fine as a specimen tree or in groups. May need sweating before planting to break dormancy, instructions on page 4. Native to central and eastern U.S. Customers report that it is reliably blooming in Zone 4. (1-3')

413A Redbud, $17.00

Chaenomeles speciosa **'Toyo Nishiki' Flowering Quince** 6-10' x same. Selection from Wade's Hakoneya Nursery, Japan, 1941. Named for Toyonishiki Kiichiro, American-born Japanese elite sumo wrestler famous during World War II. Note that the genus *Chaenomeles*, (pronounced ky-NOM-aleez) is *not* the tree-fruit quince, *Cydonia oblonga*. Pink, white and red flowers gracefully adorn the spiny branches before leaves emerge in late April to early May. Each flower seems to be a slightly different shade from the last. Large sour-apple-shaped fruit, good for jam. The delightful scent of the intensely fragrant fruit will fill your yard. Upright growth habit compared to other varieties. Flowering quinces can be vigorous and often become densely branched, so we recommend annual thinning to optimize flowering. A preferred choice for bonsai growers. Prefers dry to medium-moist soils with decent drainage. Incredibly tough plant said to be hardy to –25˚. Native to Asia. Z4. (1-3')

415A Toyo Nishiki Quince, $18.00

Clethra alnifolia **'Ruby Spice' Summersweet** or **Sweet Pepperbush** 4-5' x same. Sport of 'Pink Spires', Broken Arrow Nursery, Hamden, CT, 1992. A *New York Times* article called Clethra "a plant that sounds almost too good to be true." Red buds and beautiful spires of heavenly scented deep pink flowers appear on racemes for 6 weeks in midsummer. Bees and butterflies love it but rabbits and deer do not. Whorls of extremely attractive finely serrated distinctly veined dark green foliage turn deep gold in fall. Dangling racemes of "black pepper" persist into the next growing season. Erect oval habit, often suckering to form dense colonies. Slow growing. Prefers acid moist well-drained soils. A good shrub to border streams and ponds. Will tolerate salty coastal conditions. Full sun to shade. Pest-free and easy to grow. Species native Maine to Florida. Z3. (1-3')

416A Ruby Spice Summersweet, $15.25

Cornus alternifolia **Pagoda Dogwood**
20' x 30-35' Also known as **Alternate-Leaved Dogwood**. Small tree or large multi-stemmed shrub, particularly beautiful with its tiers of horizontal branches and extremely fragrant white 2–3" flower clusters. These appear in mid-late spring, followed by immature olive-green berries, each tipped with a tiny bright yellow style remnant. In midsummer clusters of dark blue berries ripen above the blue-green foliage. One of the most popular dogwoods with the birds. Roots, bark and inner bark all medicinal. Prefers partial shade and moist well-drained acid soil, but tolerates full sun, poor soil and even clay. pH adaptable. Excellent naturalized as a specimen or in groups and often found growing with sugar maple, beech and basswood. Reddish-purple fall color. Susceptible to golden canker. When dormant, prune out diseased branches to prevent spores spreading to the trunk. Native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (3-6')

417A Pagoda Dogwood, $15.50

C. amomum **Silky Dogwood** 6-10' x same. Rounded multi-stemmed shrub with attractive purple-red stems especially beautiful in winter. Valuable for naturalizing borders, streams and wetlands. Effective in masses or even as windbreaks. Medium-fast growing. Yellowish-white flowers in late spring followed by blue berries in midsummer. Medium-dark green foliage turns purple in the fall. Songbirds love the berries. Prefers moist well-drained soils but will tolerate wet locations, too. Does not like dry areas. Sun or partial shade. Easy to transplant. Native to eastern U.S. Z4. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

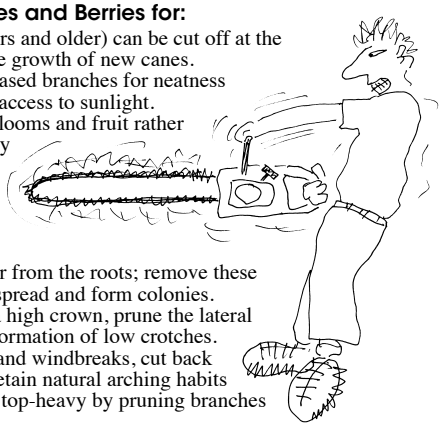
418A Silky Dogwood, $14.25

C. kousa **var. *chinensis*** **Kousa Dogwood** 20-30' x same. Also referred to as **Chinese Dogwood**. Introduced by E.H. Wilson, Hupeh, China, 1907. Horizontally spreading small specimen tree or large shrub covered with layers of milky-white blossoms for up to 6 weeks in early summer. The pointed bracts give blossoms a starlike appearance followed by deep pink edible exotic fruit the size of ping-pong balls. Peel off the skin or simply squeeze it open and bite into the custardy pulp. The flesh is sweet and mild, and reminds us of pawpaw. Tan, grey and faint orange exfoliating bark. Scarlet-orange-yellow fall foliage. Used up north as an alternative to the iconic southern dogwood tree, *C. florida*. Resistant to dogwood anthracnose and borer. Prefers light well-drained soils with an abundance of air and sun, but it'll tolerate shade and damper areas. Very adaptable. Native to China and Japan. Z4. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

419A Kousa Dogwood, $17.00

Prune Ornamental Shrubs, Trees and Berries for:

- Rejuvenation: older canes (three years and older) can be cut off at the ground line each year to encourage the growth of new canes.
- Health: remove broken, dead or diseased branches for neatness and vigor and to increase airflow and access to sunlight.
- Vitality: prune to encourage better blooms and fruit rather than heavy excessive vegetation. Many shrubs send up new vegetative growth from the terminal bud. Pruning the terminal bud redirects the plant's energy back to some of the lateral flowering and fruiting buds.
- Containment: certain varieties sucker from the roots; remove these suckers unless you want the shrub to spread and form colonies.
- Shape: if you desire a tall tree with a high crown, prune the lateral branches from the trunk and prevent formation of low crotches. For a low stocky tree used in screens and windbreaks, cut back the top shoots to force side growth. Retain natural arching habits and prevent the shrub from becoming top-heavy by pruning branches after flowering.



C. mas **Cornelian Cherry** 20-25' x 15-20' Gaining popularity in the U.S., the fruits of this Old World gem have been harvested by humans for thousands of years. Bright red pear-shaped edible "cherries" set heavily in late summer. Let them fully ripen to their full sweet potential before picking. Clusters of small delicate yellow flowers cover the leafless tree in early spring for a striking show before the forsythias even think of waking up. Long-lived large shrub with upright rounded habit makes a great edible hedge or can be pruned to a small tree. Nutritious, medicinal, high in vitamin C and good in jam, syrup, tarts, fruit leather and wine. The wood is hard and strong, once used for spears and wheel spokes. This plant has it all. Prefers well-drained soil and full sun but otherwise adaptable. Likely to bear fruit in 2–3 years. Of the two cultivars listed, Fedco friend and consultant Tom Vigue says, "Pioneer may sound like the more worthwhile of the two, but I wouldn't be without Elegant. It is truly delicious. I believe having two cultivars improves pollination success." Partially self-fertile. Grafted and grown by Seth Yentes of North Branch Farm in Monroe, ME. Native to Europe and Asia. Z4/5. **ME Grown**. (2-4')

C. m. **'Elegant'** Bred by Svetlana Klimenko, a Ukranian botanist at the Central Botanic Garden in Kiev. Selected for good fresh-eating flavor. Ripens around the third week of August in Maine. Picking window lasts between two and three weeks. Fruits are about 1 1/4" long with a very slender elongate shape. Soft flesh is tricky to pit so best eaten out of hand.

420A Elegant Cornelian Cherry, $25.00

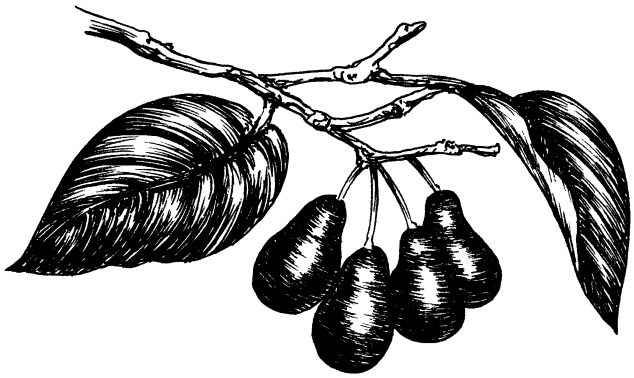
C. m. **'Pioneer'** Another Klimenko intro with good flavor. More tart than Elegant but better for processing. Ripens around the first week of September in Maine, about one week after Elegant. Picking window lasts for three or four weeks. Fruits mature to about 1 1/2" long and have a pronounced fat pear shape. Firm flesh is easy to pit.

421A Pioneer Cornelian Cherry, $25.00

C. m. **Cornelian Cherry Seedlings** Each one will be unique. Plant several for genetic diversity. They will pollinate each other and any named cornelian cherry cultivar.

422A Cornelian Cherry Seedling, $16.00

422B Cornelian Cherry Seedlings, bundle of 5, $70.00



Praise for Cornelian Cherry

These virtually indestructible plants, beautiful in the landscape during all seasons, annually bear obscenely huge masses of stunning and very useful fruit. **What do they taste like?** A cross between a sweet cherry and a cranberry, definitely tart and also definitely sweet, but with a unique, indescribable flavor. I have not had anyone taste them and not like them. Puckery when underripe, but when fully ripe, they can be eaten out of hand. When ripe on the tree they soon drop off, so they must be picked frequently. Or they can be picked slightly prematurely and ripened indoors. **What about the pits?** The pit is elongated like that of an olive, so hand-cranked cherry pitters don't work at all. There's enough meat on these fruit that squeezing the pits out by hand is productive enough to be worthwhile. But I have found a punch-type pitter with a smaller-than-usual plunger and ejection hole that works moderately well, made by Westmark of Germany. To use it you must hold the elongate fruit upright to the plunger.

Juice does not flow out of these meaty fruits, even when they have been mangled by hand-squeezing out the pits. And they are very high in pectin. A **perfect jam** can be made simply with 6 parts fruit to 1 part sugar. And it is delicious! Using the same sugar ratio, the fruit **puréed and sweetened** is great added to yogurt and spooned over cornbread or pancakes. An **apple crisp with about 20% cornelian cherries** is spectacular! Or substitute coarsely chopped cornelians in your favorite cranberry muffin recipe. The sweetened purée also makes an **excellent fruit leather**. I use frozen fruit for this, since fall is so busy, and thaw it in winter when the fireplace is going. A 200˚ oven is perfect for drying the leather without actually cooking the fruit. Sprinkle a little flour on parchment paper and spread the puree on that. The flour helps separate the leather from the paper. This is a fantastic snack. But I like to fold it up and use kitchen shears to cut it into raisin-sized pieces. These pieces folded into your favorite cornbread recipe make a delectable treat. Jack Kertesz says this is a match made in heaven. Personally, I think it is too good to share with the gods.

–Tom Vigue

C. sericea **Redosier Dogwood** 8-10' Formerly called ***C. stolonifera***. Broad loosely rounded multi-stemmed shrub spreads freely by stolons (underground stems) and forms excellent hedges and borders. Most admirable in the winter when the masses of brilliant red stems are especially beautiful against a backdrop of freshly fallen snow. Bring them inside and enjoy them in wreaths and arrangements. By June, the stems are hidden by dark green foliage and sprinkled with tiny 4-petaled star-shaped flowers. 2–3" clusters of whitish berries are popular with nearly 50 bird species. One of the most valuable of our native wildlife plants. Perfect for swamps, streams and wetlands. Very adaptable to a range of soils and climates, but generally likes wet conditions. Sun or partial shade. Fast growing and easy to transplant. To improve stem color, prune out older stems in the spring. Native to eastern U.S. Z2. (1-3')

424A Redosier Dogwood, $16.00

424B Redosier Dogwood, bundle of 5, $60.00

Corylus americana **American Hazelnut** or **American Filbert** 12-18' x 10-15' Squirrels, bluejays and humans alike relish the sweet excellent nuts of this multi-stemmed rounded native shrub. Collect the crop as soon as the husks begin to turn brown and lose their sticky yellowness. In central Maine that's around the third week of September. Showy catkins in spring. Dark green serrated foliage in summer. A patchwork of reds, yellows, oranges and greens in autumn. Suckers from the roots. Excellent for naturalizing in thickets. The main pest is nut weevil, which leaves a "hit" mark on the nut shell. (Raking up drops and spraying Surround may help with controlling this problem.) Prefers well-drained soils and is pH adaptable. Full sun or light shade. May be self-fruitful but for best nut sets plant more than one shrub, 4–6' apart. Usually bears tasty 1/2" nuts 3–5 years after planting. Native to the U.S. Z4. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

425A American Hazelnut, $16.00

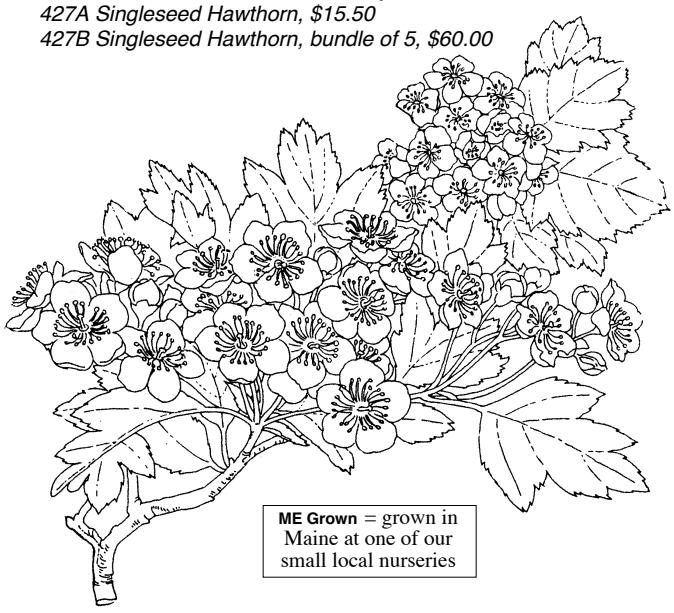
Cotinus coggyria **'Royal Purple' Smokebush** 8-10' x same. Boskoop, Netherlands. Upright spreading shrub with velvety dark purple foliage and amazing purplish-pink inflorescences that look like large smoke puffs on top of the branches throughout summer. Each one of these poofs is composed of a web of fine stems, the smallest of which are lined with tiny hairs that reflect the light and create an ethereal effect. Quite remarkable. For maximum glow, plant where the sun will shine through each luminescent leaf. Red-burgundy fall color. Some say to cut it to the ground each fall for more vigorous and brightly colored growth. We leave ours to come back on its own. So far it hasn't let us down. Adaptable to a wide range of pH and soils although it prefers well-drained. Disease free. Native southern Europe to China. Often considered a Zone 5 plant, but reliably grows back and flowers each summer in Zone 4. (1-3')

426A Royal Purple Smokebush, $15.00

Crataegus monogyna **Singleseed Hawthorn** 20-30' x 10-15' Also called **Wild Form Hawthorn**. Multi-stemmed shrub or small tree with medicinal berries, flowers and leaves. Profuse white flowers in spring cover the sun-facing branches, stunning against the dark green deeply lobed polished foliage. Large sharp thorns are scattered along the branches and trunks. One of several official medicinal species used for the cardiovascular system, to improve circulation and regulate blood pressure. Harvest dark red 3/8" fruits in October, or when they turn entirely red, by using pole loppers to cut off branches loaded with berries. Don't let the spiny branches fall on your head! Dry berries for teas or tinctures, or process fresh into syrups and preserves. Enjoy the berries infused in wintertime tea to warm fingers and toes. Unappealing for fresh eating. Persistent through winter, providing food for birds. The most common species of hawthorn worldwide and seen throughout Europe in hedges that go on for miles. Native to Europe, North Africa, western Asia, and naturalized and hybridized in U.S. Z3. (1-3')

427A Singleseed Hawthorn, $15.50

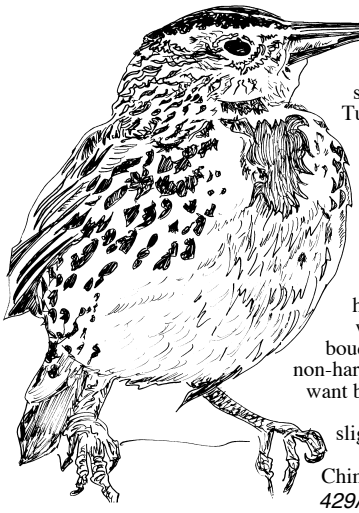
427B Singleseed Hawthorn, bundle of 5, $60.00



ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

***Diervilla lonicera* Northern Bush Honeysuckle** also called **Dwarf Bush Honeysuckle** 2-4' x 2-5' Every time we have visited the *Diervilla* in grower Sharon Turner's gardens, it is buzzing with bumblebees. Five little bright yellow petals on each tubular flower curl open and away, an invitation to insects, hummingbirds, butterflies and garden tourists. Clusters of flowers form in the axils of new growth. Extended season bloomer. Long pointed lustrous dark green leaves emerge with a hint of bronze. Good for erosion control or mass planting. Bark, roots and leaves were used by native tribes as a diuretic and to treat eye problems. Full sun to light shade. This plant will tolerate even the poorest soils, but if you want it to naturalize, give it rich moist soil. Pest and disease free. Native to eastern North America. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

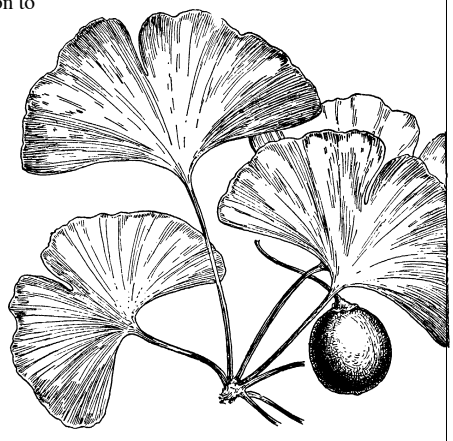
428A Diervilla, $14.25



***Forsythia ovata* x *F. europaea* 'Meadowlark' Forsythia** 6-11' x same. North Dakota St U, 1986. Welcoming everyone to spring, from Mile One on the Maine Turnpike to the potato prairies of The County, forsythia means the end of another long winter and the birth of color. Meadowlark is one of the most reliably flowering, with bud hardiness to –35°. Semi-arching habit and showy bright yellow blooms. Cut the branches in the earliest part of spring before they have flowered, put them in a vase of water, and soon you'll have the first bouquet of the year. Don't be fooled by non-hardy imitations at the Big Box. If you want blooms above the snow line, shop at Fedco! Prefers moderately fertile, slightly acid to neutral soils with good drainage. Best in full sun. Native to China. Z3. (1-3')

429A Meadowlark Forsythia, $14.00

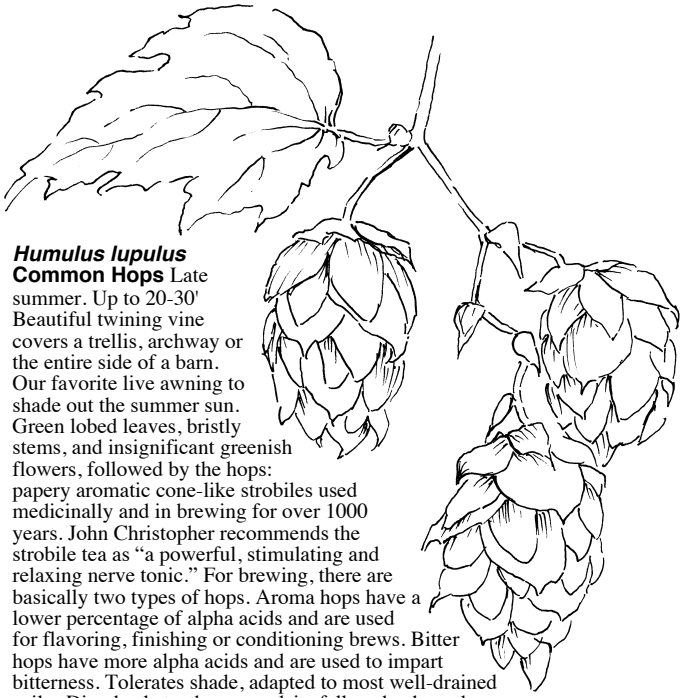
***Ginkgo biloba* Ginkgo** 50-80' Also called **Maidenhair Tree**. Considered the oldest living genus of seed plants; grew in North America in the time of the dinosaurs. There are 3000-year-old specimens in China. Upright tree when young with branches that spike out and up like the rays of the sun, eventually becoming wide-spreading and graceful. Slow-growing, can be extremely long-lived. Unique fan-shaped foliage turns sparkling golden-yellow in fall, then all at once the leaves drop and within hours the tree is bare. Famous for their edible seeds and the infamous stinky fruit that encloses them. The flesh will actually rot off all on its own, leaving clean edible nuts with no bad smell. The softish nuts can be used in stir-fries. Leaf tea used to enhance circulation to the brain and extremities. Tolerates smoke, dust, wind, ice, insects, disease, salt. Prefers slightly acid well-drained soil but is very adaptable. Minimal maintenance requirements, nearly indestructible, an excellent city tree. Male and female tree required for fruit. These are unsexed seedlings. Plant two or more for fruit. Native to southeastern China. Z3. (1-3')



430A Ginkgo, $15.00
430B Ginkgo, bundle of 5, $67.00

***Hamamelis virginiana* Witch Hazel** 8-20' x same. A small irregular rounded fall-flowering medicinal tree or large shrub. Makes a soothing astringent with a seemingly endless number of uses from controlling acne to soothing diaper rash, baggy eyes (yes!), poison ivy, chicken pox, even an unhappy lovelife. T.N. Dickinson's Witch Hazel Astringent is still available in your local drug store. Most preparations involve simply brewing tea from the leaves and/or twigs. Oval hazel-like textured foliage. Brilliant golden-yellow fall color. Quirky yellow flowers appear in early to mid November. "Witch" is said to refer to the odd flowering time or maybe it's because dowsers like to use the interesting forked branches to "witch" for water. Full sun or shade. Prefers moist acid soils; avoid dry spots. No pests or diseases, does well with very little care. We do nothing to ours and it looks better and better every year. Native Canada to Georgia. Z3. (1-3')

431A Witch Hazel, $16.00



***Humulus lupulus* Common Hops** Late summer. Up to 20-30' Beautiful twining vine covers a trellis, archway or the entire side of a barn. Our favorite live awning to shade out the summer sun. Green lobed leaves, bristly stems, and insignificant greenish flowers, followed by the hops: papery aromatic cone-like strobiles used medicinally and in brewing for over 1000 years. John Christopher recommends the strobile tea as "a powerful, stimulating and relaxing nerve tonic." For brewing, there are basically two types of hops. Aroma hops have a lower percentage of alpha acids and are used for flavoring, finishing or conditioning brews. Bitter hops have more alpha acids and are used to impart bitterness. Tolerates shade, adapted to most well-drained soils. Dies back to the ground in fall and rebounds more vigorously each year. Plant it where you want it because it really takes over. No serious pests or diseases. Native to Eurasia. Z3. (5-6" female rhizomes)

***H. l.* 'Cascade'** USDA 19124 [(Fuggle x Serebrianka-Fuggle S) x open-pollinated] Oregon St U, 1972. Contains 4-7% alpha acids. Fragrantly aromatic hop, low bittering value. Very productive with large cones, ready to harvest mid-late August in central Maine. A customer wrote, "Cascade has gained impeccable renown as *the* charismatic hop in such unsurpassable ales as Anchor's Liberty Ale, Sierra Nevada's Pale Ale and McNeill's Firehouse Amber Ale. Nothing 'light' about these." Resistant to downy mildew.

L433A Cascade Hops, bundle of 3, $17.50

***H. l.* 'Centennial'** (Brewers Gold x USDA male) Zimmerman, Kenny intro, 1990. Medium to high bittering content and floral citrus aroma give a nice balance to this dual-purpose hop. High yielding with 8-11% alpha acid content. Loses alpha acids fast in storage, better suited for micro and home brewers. Similar to Cascade and Chinook. Moderately resistant to powdery mildew.

L434A Centennial Hops, bundle of 3, $17.50

***H. l.* 'Willamette'** (USDA 21003 x Fuggle Seedling 2-4) USDA, 1976. Alpha content 4-6%. Excellent all-purpose hop. Old English-style aroma with brewing characteristics similar to Fuggle. Low bittering. Spicy aroma. Good finishing hop for brewing English ales and stouts. Vigorous. Good disease resistance.

L435A Willamette Hops, bundle of 3, $17.50

***H. l.* 'Zeus'** High alpha content—13–17%, high yielding, high oil content! Sharp taste and moderate bittering. Earthy, herbal, spicy and slightly citrus. Used in American-style ales and stouts.

L436A Zeus Hops, bundle of 3, $17.50

Hops

Refrigerate slightly moistened rhizomes in a plastic bag until planting. Hops prefer full sun and rich light well-drained soil with a pH of 6.5–8.0. As soon as soil can be worked in spring, till to create a weed-free area. Dig holes about 1' deep and at least 3' apart in rows. Add manure, compost and other slow-release organic fertilizers. Plant 2 rhizomes per hole, horizontally with the buds pointed up and cover with 1–2" of loose soil. The first year the hop plant requires frequent light watering and mulching.

Hops grow vertically, with lateral sidearms extending from the main vine and producing cones. Vines may grow up to 25' in a single season, and do best if they are trained onto strong twine 12–30' high, supported by a trellis, wire, pole, tree branch or south-facing building. When the young vines are about 1' long, select the 2 or 3 most vigorous vines per hill and remove the rest. Gently wrap the vines clockwise onto a string. Once trained, the vine will guide itself.

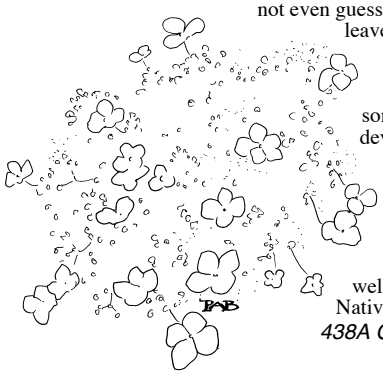
Pick the hops when they are papery but still slightly sticky and filled with yellow powder. Harvest dates will vary with the variety and climate. Because most hops are produced out of reach from the ground, it is safest to lower the vines in order to pick the hops. Dry hops thoroughly before use. Placed on a window screen in a dry attic, they will dry in a few weeks. Dried hops freeze well.

Cut the vines back to the ground after they have been killed by frost. Each spring apply a hearty topdressing of manure and compost. To help control vigor, prune roots by cutting a 2–3' circle with a shovel around the base of the plant in spring.

***Hydrangea paniculata* 'Grandiflora' PeeGee Hydrangea** 8 x 10-15' The old-fashioned hydrangea of New England. Large upright woody shrub with arching branches and very showy large conical double white flower clusters that bloom July–August, turning pink-bronze and lasting well into autumn. Makes a great cutflower dried or in a vase of water. Small serrated yellow-green leaves illuminated with a fine yellow edge. Prefers good loamy moist well-drained soil in sun or partial shade. Disliked by Japanese Beetles. Difficult to kill; urban tolerant. Native to Asia. Z4. (1-3')

437A PeeGee Hydrangea, $16.50

***H. quercifolia* Oakleaf Hydrangea** 4-6' x 3-5' Large spreading native hydrangea with large lobed oak-like leaves and whitish-pink spiked inflorescences. While most hydrangeas are complex hybrids, this is our eastern native straight species hydrangea with such unique foliage you might not even guess it was a hydrangea. Deep green leaves become a spectacle of purple, red and orange in fall. Adds texture to shrub gardens and hedges. Flower panicles, sometimes up to 1' long, gradually develop hints of purple throughout July and August. Great for both fresh and dried arrangements. Flower buds can be tender in very northern areas and windy sites and may need some protection. Moist, fertile and well-drained soil, sun to part shade. Native to southeast U.S. Z5. (1-3')



438A Oakleaf Hydrangea, $16.50

***Ilex verticillata* Winterberry** Also called **Black Alder**, **Fever Bush**, **Possumhaw**, **Swamp Holly** and more. Deciduous suckering medicinal holly with clusters of upright stems. Best known for profusions of bright red 3/8" berries which stand out after the leaves fall—they keep their color all winter, spectacular against the snow. A staple of the Maine landscape. Lustrous deep green leaves retain their color long after they're cut for decoration. Richly foliated, but open enough to display interesting branching structure. Excellent fall wildlife forage plant. Leaves used for tea and tonic, astringent bark used in herbal medicine. Tolerates dry conditions but prefers moist or wet acidic soil, even standing water. Sun or partial shade. No serious pests or diseases. **Male and female plants required for fruit**, which is produced on female plants. Plant males within 30' of females. Native from midwestern to eastern U.S. Z4. **ME Grown**. (1-3')

***I. v.* 'Jim Dandy'** 3-6' x 4-5' **Male** selection to pollinate Red Sprite winterberry. One will pollinate several females.

439A Jim Dandy Male Winterberry, $14.50

***I. v.* 'Red Sprite'** 3-5' x 4-8' **Female**. USDA intro. Smaller plant than the straight species with an attractive low loose rounded form. Winner of the 1998 Cary Award for Distinctive Plants for New England. Jim Dandy male required for fruit.

440A Red Sprite Female Winterberry, $14.50

***I. v.* 'Southern Gentleman'** 6x6' **Male** selection to pollinate Winter Red winterberry. Don't be deceived by the name—it's hardy. One will pollinate several females.

441A Southern Gentleman Male Winterberry, $14.50

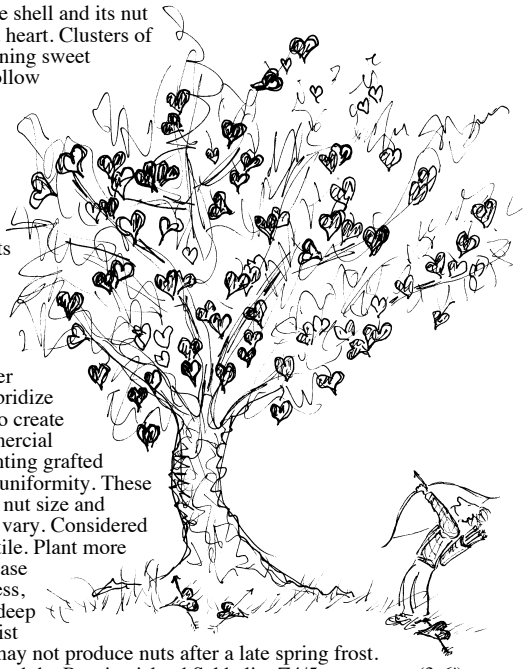
***I. v.* 'Winter Red'** 9x8' **Female**. Considerably larger than Red Sprite. Darker green foliage. Winner of the 1995 Styer Award. Southern Gentleman male required for fruit.

442A Winter Red Female Winterberry, $14.50

Plant Sizes

All of our woody plants are well-rooted bare-root plants. Some shrubs will be a bit shorter than these specs and some hardwoods will be much taller. Because of the nature of dealing with living commodities, size variations will naturally occur within each crop.

***Juglans ailantifolia* var. *cordiformis* Heartnut** 30-60' x 30-40' A sport of the Japanese walnut with an unusual form: the shell and its nut are shaped like a heart. Clusters of 4–10 nuts containing sweet flavorful meat follow showy spring catkins. Ornamental yellow-green pinnate leaves. Husks can be used to make a yellow dye. Starts bearing fruit in 3–5 years. Very similar to our American butternut but resistant to canker disease. Will hybridize with butternuts to create buartnuts. Commercial orchards are planting grafted cultivars for nut uniformity. These are seedlings, so nut size and crackability will vary. Considered partially self-fertile. Plant more than one to increase pollination success, 30–40' apart, in deep well-drained moist soil. Hardy but may not produce nuts after a late spring frost. Native to Japan and the Russian island Sakhalin. Z4/5. **ME Grown.** (3-6')



443A Japanese Heartnut Seedlings, $16.50

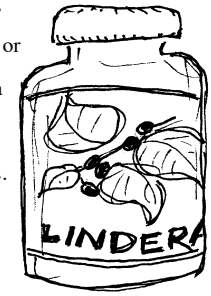
***J. nigra* Black Walnut Seedlings** 70-90' A spectacular shade tree with a magnificent open rounded crown of massive limbs with dark green leaves. Harder to crack than commercial English walnuts but worth the effort for their extraordinarily distinct sweet earthy rich flavor. Eat them chopped on fresh salads, or with dark chocolate while sipping bourbon. Highly valued cabinet and veneer wood. Husks, leaves and roots all have anti-fungal properties. Husks also yield a rich brown dye. Deep taproot. Prefers moist well-drained soils, pH 6–7. Roots give off a compound called juglone which inhibits competing plants, so don't plant one too close to your garden. Space trees about 50' apart for nut production, 20' apart for lumber. May begin to bear fruit in 5–10 years. Some say multiple trees needed for pollination but we've seen enough solo trees with large nut crops to say that you only need one. Native to eastern U.S. though not quite into Maine. Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-4')

445A Black Walnut Seedlings, $16.50

***J. regia* 'Carpathian' Walnut Seedlings** 30-50' with 40' spread. Species sometimes called **English Walnut** or **Persian Walnut**. Very large open somewhat vase-shaped fast-growing tree with those edible nuts you buy in the store. This is also the walnut traditionally used in Europe for salad oil. Has the same alternate pinnately compound foliage as black walnut but each glossy blue-green leaf is larger and more rounded, almost tropical looking, and the shell is a bit easier to crack. Because our trees are seedlings, nut quality will be variable. Prefers light deep dry loamy soil. Bears in 5–7 years. Considered self-fertile, but plant two for more abundant crops. In the 1930s, this cultivar was brought to North America from the Carpathian Mountains in Poland where it was reputed to bear heavy crops even after –40° winters. Native to southeastern Europe and east to China. Z4 or maybe Z3. **ME Grown.** (3-6')

447A Carpathian Walnut Seedlings, $16.50

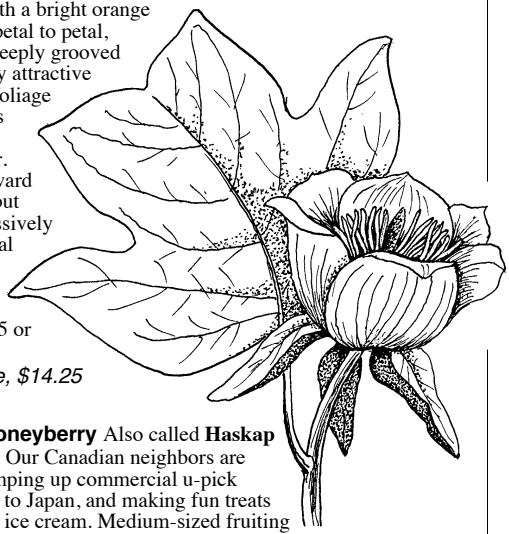
***Lindera benzoin* Spicebush** 6-12' x 8-12' Large rounded multi-stemmed native shrub suited to naturalizing in moist or wet areas, singly or in groups. Soft-yellow flowers early in spring followed by small clusters of glossy red berries by mid to late summer. Blue-green foliage turns golden yellow in fall. Edible berries and medicinal twigs and bark. Scratch the berries, foliage or stems and you'll know how it got its name: all three have a delicious lemony-spicy scent and can be used as a native alternative to allspice. Leaves, twigs and fruit used in teas. Attracts bees, birds and butterflies. Prefers moist well-drained neutral or slightly acidic soils. Often found in full or partial shade, but at its showiest in full sun. Be patient with the plants. We thought one had died a few years ago and dug it up, only to find that the roots were alive and well, ready to go. These are unsexed seedlings: **male and female plants required for fruit** so plant several for best results. Native to eastern U.S. Z4. (1-3')



448A Spicebush, $15.00

448B Spicebush, bundle of 5, $65.00

Liriodendron tulipifera **Tuliptree** 70-90' with 35-50' spread. Highly ornamental shade tree and largest native relative of the Magnolia. One of the tallest trees in the eastern U.S. It will adapt to the space you give it. We've seen them with a spread up to 100'. Native Americans used to make 30–40' long dugout canoes from the clear straight trunks. Decorated with very showy tulip-like flowers in late spring. Each 6-petaled light lime-yellow flower is ornamented with a bright orange band that extends from petal to petal, visible inside and out. Deeply grooved richly colored bark. Very attractive flat soft-green rounded foliage has a shape like a child's drawing of a tulip. Golden-yellow fall color. Reachs full potential toward southern New England but we've seen a few impressively large specimens in central Maine. Full sun, deep moist well-drained slightly acid loam. Native to eastern U.S. Z5 or maybe Z4. (2-4')



449A Tuliptree, $14.25

Lonicera caerulea **Honeyberry** Also called **Haskap** or **Edible Honeysuckle**. Our Canadian neighbors are crazy about haskaps, ramping up commercial u-pick orchards, exporting fruit to Japan, and making fun treats like honeyberry jam and ice cream. Medium-sized fruiting shrub is somewhat similar in bush and berry to our native highbush blueberry. Small dark blue oval fruit is very high in antioxidants, and ripens in June before the strawberries. Extensive breeding has led to improved flavor and larger fruit, which tastes like a mixture between a raspberry and a blueberry. In the Japanese Ainu language, *haskap* means 'lots of little things on top of the branches.' Productive plants bear at a young age with proper pollination. Ten pounds of fruit per plant is possible after a few years. Will do well in most soils and in a wide range of soil pH (5.0–8.5). Extremely hardy. Low maintenance and disease free, though leaves may show sign of sunburn as season progresses. Native to Siberia and the Kuril Islands. Note pollination requirements below. Z2. **ME Grown**. (1-3')

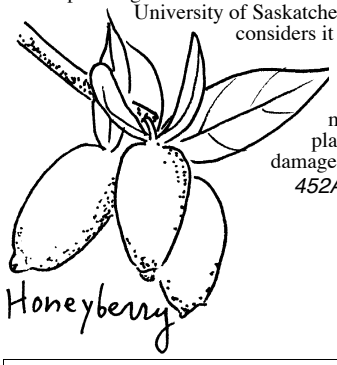
L. c. **var.** ***kamtschatica*** **'Berry Blue'** 6-8' Recommended pollinator for Borealis and Indigo Gem, will pollinate up to 8 plants. Introduced from the Czech Republic, Berry Blue has a different parentage from Borealis and Indigo Gem, which helps with pollination. Tart, but not too tart, the berries are plentiful, though smaller and less tasty than the types it pollinates. Good fresh or processed. **Needs another honeyberry as a pollinator.**

450A Berry Blue Honeyberry, $20.00

L. c. **var.** ***edulis*** **'Borealis'** 4-6' x same. U of Saskatchewan, 2007 intro. The best-tasting and largest fruit in the Saskatchewan breeding program. Delicate fruit, not as firm as Tundra, which we've offered in the past. Recommended for home gardeners. **Needs Berry Blue as a pollinator.**

451A Borealis Honeyberry, $20.00

L. c. **var.** ***edulis*** **'Indigo Gem'** 4-6' x same. U of Saskatchewan, 2007. Same parentage as Tundra and Borealis. Dr. Bob Bors, lead scientist of the University of Saskatchewan's honeyberry breeding program, considers it the preferred variety for fresh eating. Sweet and slightly tangy with a chewier texture than the other varieties. Leaves susceptible to mildew and sunburn but only after the plant has already set fruit, so causing no damage. **Needs Berry Blue as a pollinator.**



452A Indigo Gem Honeyberry, $20.00

Cultivars and varieties

Cultivar is short for 'cultivated variety.' A cultivar is a plant that has been bred; it does not occur naturally in the wild. A **Variety** is a plant that occurs naturally in the wild and is chosen for commercial propagation to maintain its genetic characteristics.

In the nursery trade, the terms 'cultivar' and 'variety' are mistakenly used interchangeably. Both cultivar and variety names follow the botanical name (*Genus species*) and are enclosed in single quotes.

In the tree and shrub world, most cultivars and varieties are propagated clonally by cuttings or grafting. When there is no variety or cultivar name after the botanical name, the plant is most likely grown from seed. We often refer to these as "the species" of a plant, or as seedlings.

Malus Flowering and Culinary Crabapples

This is the second year of our crabapple collaboration with Boston's world-famous Arnold Arboretum. Its extensive crabapple collection on Peters Hill includes more than 350 specimens from around the world. I've spent many days over the years exploring the crabs in all seasons, and it's always worth the trip. We are pleased to offer five more of the best and most unusual crabapples from the arboretum's collection.

The project began a few years ago when I met Miles Schwartz Sax, then an apprentice at the arboretum, and we began to talk apples. Miles is the great-grandson of Karl Sax, former Arnold director and one of America's greatest crabapple breeders. Miles put together the list—including a few of his great-grandfather's introductions—and supplied the scionwood for us to graft. The result is this diverse and delightful assortment, which we are offering individually or as a collection.

Each of the Arnold offerings has an Accession Number, which is a unique identifier used by botanical gardens to keep track of plants in the living collection. Using the accession number you can locate that exact plant when visiting the arboretum.

An excellent article about Miles' work with the Arnold's crabapples can be found in the November 2011 *Arnoldia: The Magazine of the Arnold Arboretum* (vol. 69, no. 2). Descriptions written by John Bunker and Miles Sax.

If you have more questions, please visit the Arnold Arboretum website arboretum.harvard.edu/plants/featured-plants/malus-collection/ or write to: Miles.schwartz.sax@gmail.com

All are **ME Grown**. (3-6')

Arnold Arboretum Crabapple Collection Five from this year's selection of Arnold Arboretum crabapples.

454A Crabapple Collection, bundle of 5, $125.00

Bob White 15-20 x 15-20' A selection originating in Massachusetts of unknown parentage. **Accession Number 401-69**. Arnold Arboretum intro, before 1876. Pink buds and single white flowers. Small 1/2" persistent golden fruit for the birds. One of the most frequently recommended yellow fruiting varieties. Dense rounded tree with green foliage. Bright gold fall foliage. Excellent scab resistance. Z4.

455A Bob White Crabapple, $29.00

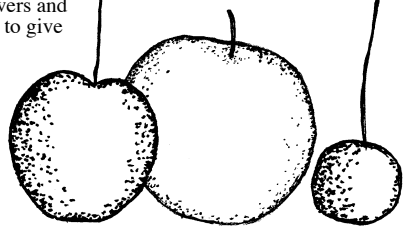
Brandywine 20x20' *M. ioensis* 'Plena' Klehm's No. 8 (*M.* x *purpurea* 'Lemoinei' x *M.* 'Klehm's Improved') Incredibly beautiful fragrant flowers followed by unbelievably bitter fruit. Deep red buds open to small deep pink double rose-like blossoms. Put an arrangement of these flowers in a vase, and people will swear they are roses. One of *the* most fragrant crabs. Some growers will hate the unattractive 1–2" yellow fruit that drops in the fall and makes a mess. Cidermakers will love it. Very high in tannin. In *Cider Digest* a few years ago, one grower wrote, "You ought to try planting a crab called 'Brandywine'. WOW!!! what a real mouth-killer as far as tannin goes….Couldn't tell you the acidity because my tongue had gone dead." Loosely rounded tree. Blooms late. Z4.

456A Brandywine Crabapple, $29.00

Candymint 8-10' x 15-18' *M. sargentii* Robert Simpson intro, 1987. The long rippling undulating branches reach out, giving this low-growing semi-weeping red-leafed Sargent-type crab a strongly horizontal habit. Red buds, single pink flowers edged in red. The flowers and reddish foliage blend together to give the tree a pinkish-grey smoky appearance. Deep purple persistent fruit. Disease resistant. Z4.

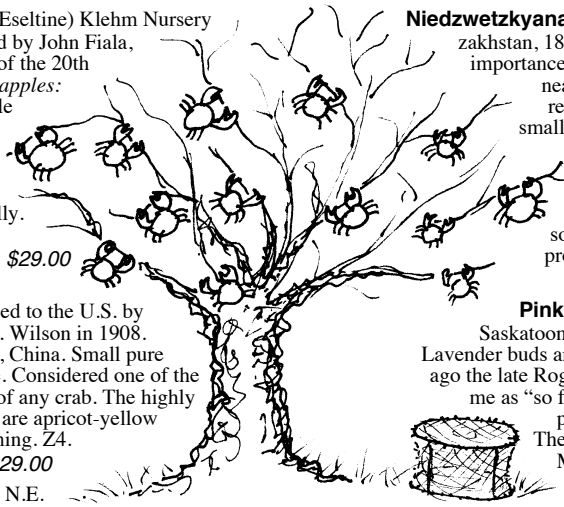
457A Candymint Crabapple, $29.00

ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries



Cranberry Lace 14x8' (Liset x Van Eseltine) Klehm Nursery intro, South Barrington, IL, 1989. Bred by John Fiala, one of the great crabapple champions of the 20th century and author of *Flowering Crabapples: The Genus Malus*. Red buds and double flowers of red and pink. Reddish foliage. Small deep red fruit. Relatively small tree with upright columnar form becomes somewhat vase-shaped over time. Blooms annually. Disease resistant. Z4.

458A Cranberry Lace Crabapple, $29.00



Cutleaf Crab 25x25' *M. toringoides* **Accession 202-2001*A**. First introduced to the U.S. by Arnold Arboretum plant collector E.H. Wilson in 1908. Native to Gansu, Sichuan, and Xizang, China. Small pure white flowers. Lobed "cutleaf" foliage. Considered one of the most beautiful and interesting in fruit of any crab. The highly ornamental 1" pear-shaped crabapples are apricot-yellow with a rosy red-pink blush. Late blooming. Z4.

459A Cutleaf Crabapple, $29.00

Dolgo 25x30' From seed collected by N.E. Hansen of *M.* x *robusta* in 1897 at the Imperial Botanical Gardens, St. Petersburg, Russia. (*Dolgo* means 'long' in Russian.) Introduced in the U.S. in 1917. *The* classic culinary crab still found in old Maine backyards. Apricot-pink buds, large fragrant 2" pure white single flowers bloom early. Beautiful purple-red 1 1/2" teardrop-shaped fruit makes flavorful clear ruby-red jelly. In recent years the aromatic very sweet, very acidic fruit has found favor with hard cidermakers. Also useful for canning, pickling and delicious sauce. Vigorous large blocky upright spreading tree consistently yields abundant summer crops. Dependable pollinator for all apples. Very hardy. Z2.

460A Dolgo Crabapple, $29.00

Golden Raindrops 20x15' *M. transitoria* 'Schmidtcutleaf' Schmidt Nursery intro, about 1993. Profuse delicate star-like flowers. Deeply cut green foliage. In the fall you can see where it got its name, as very small persistent golden yellow fruits hang in clusters like rain drops. Upright vase-shaped tree. Outstanding recent release. Excellent disease resistance although some fireblight has been reported. Z3.

463A Golden Raindrops Crabapple, $29.00

Jackii 20x20' *M. baccata* 'Jackii' **Accession 300-87*C**. Noted in South Korea by J.G. Jack who sent back scionwood to the Arnold in 1905. (Hence the name.) Pronounced "jacky-eye." Species native of Siberia, northern China and Mongolia. White-tinged pink buds open to fragrant masses of quite large white flowers. Small maroon-red fruit with tan blush. Tree features relatively thick layering branches and early season flowering. Excellent disease resistance. Often shows up on recommended crab lists though rarely found in the trade. Z2.

465A Jackii Crabapple, $29.00

Kansuensis 15x15' *M. kansuensis* var. *calva* **Accession 1690-80*B**. Arnold Arboretum intro, about 1911. Native to Hubei, Shaanxi, and Sichuan, China. From seed collected by E.H. Wilson in Tachien-Lu, western Sichuan. Small-statured slow-growing rounded tree with unique flowers and fruits. Creamy yellow-white flowers with a broad obovate (elongated and rounded) shape. Maple-like foliage. Caramel-yellow red-cheeked fruit is ridged and somewhat flattened on the top and bottom, like tiny pumpkins. Extremely rare in cultivation. Named for the Kansu province in China—not the midwestern home of Dorothy *or* the Jayhawks. Z3/4.

466A Kansuensis Crabapple, $29.00

McDonald 15x15' Unknown parentage. Burkettville, ME. A large-fruited culinary crab prized in the Burkettville (Appleton) midcoast area of Maine. I learned about McDonald from Fedco grower Delton Curtis. The medium-small heavy-bearing tree sits on a knoll just behind his in-laws' farmhouse. Each white flower features a pink center. According to Delton's wife Becky, shortly after her folks purchased the place in 1959, an elderly neighbor Mrs. Grinell approached them and said she had been gathering fruit from a crabapple tree on their property for years. To her knowledge it was the only McDonald crabapple tree around. She eventually moved to Augusta but returned each year to help harvest the fruit for her famous pickled crabapples and crabapple jelly. Rare! Z4.

468A McDonald Crabapple, $29.00

Niedzwetzkyana 25x25' *M. pumila* Discovered by N.E. Hansen in Kazakhstan, 1896, or possibly by George Dieck in Siberia, 1891. Of great importance in apple breeding, considered to be the original source for nearly all red-fleshed and pink-flowered apples. Red flowers, reddish foliage and 2" red-fleshed fruit. Dark red skin with a small russeted stem area and a scattering of pinpoint white dots. The flesh fades from whitish to solid pink. Probably too tart for fresh eating but recommended for cider, pies and sauce. John Fiala says that Niedzwetzkyana and Almata may be identical, but I think not. For a decent attempt to sort it all out, see Fiala's book, *Flowering Crabapples*. Scab prone. Z3/4.

469A Niedzwetzkyana Crabapple, $29.00

Pink Spires 12x15' W.L. Kerr intro, Sutherland Tree Nursery, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. One of the earliest to bloom every spring. Lavender buds and very light pink single blossoms. The bees love it! Years ago the late Roger Luce, Maine's great crabapple authority, described it to me as "so fragrant, it sounds like there's a beehive in it." Of the small purplish-red persistent fruit, he added, "Birds love the fruit. They clean it." Maroon foliage turns green-bronze in summer. Medium-sized narrow upright tree spreads with age. Fair to good disease resistance. Z4.

470A Pink Spires Crabapple, $29.00

Polar Bear 20x20' Henry Ross intro, Gardenview Horticultural Park, Strongsville, OH. Very large "polar bear"–sized double white flowers. Medium-sized tree with upright rounded form. After first reading about Henry Ross in John Fiala's classic crabapple text, I wrote to Mr. Ross to ask him about offering some of his selections. Since then we have had the privilege of listing several, including this Fedco exclusive. On trial here in central Maine for several years and likely to become one of our regular offerings. Persistent fruit. Probably Z3 or 4.

471A Polar Bear Crabapple, $29.00

Red Peacock 12x14' [Molten Lava x (Luwick x *M. sieboldii* No 243)] Klehm Nursery intro, South Barrington, IL, 1969. Another of Fiala's crosses. Upright semi-weeping form. Bright red buds and single white flowers. Red-orange fruit persists until December. Fiala described the heavily fruiting semi-weeping branches as being like a "peacock's tail." Annual bloomer. Disease resistant. Z4.

472A Red Peacock Crabapple, $29.00

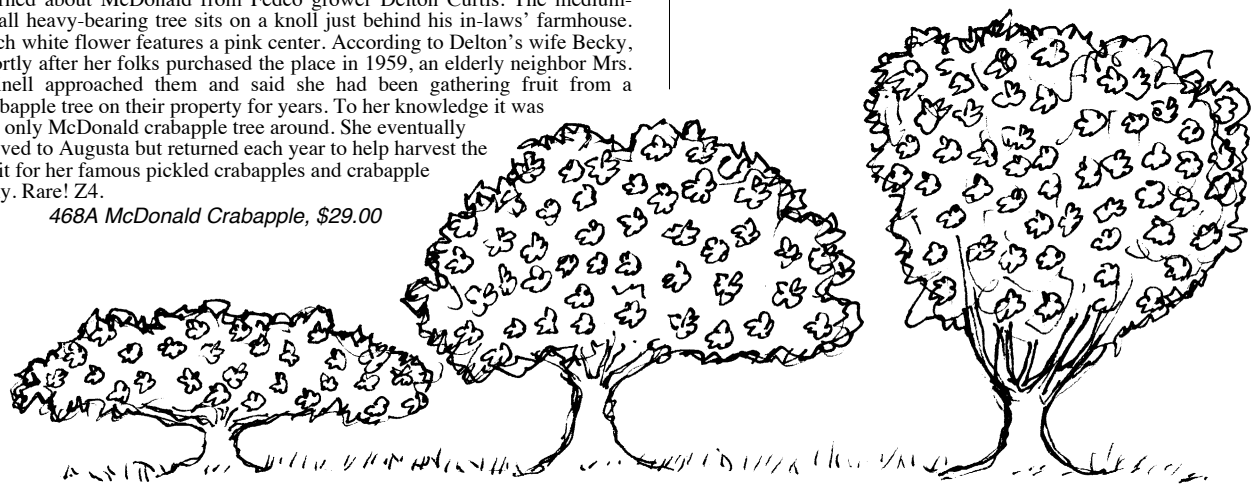
Sargent Crabapple, Mt. Auburn strain 8-10' x 20-30' *M. sargentii* Arnold Arboretum, 1892. Seed collected by one of America's most famous horticulturists, C.S. Sargent, in Hokkaido, Japan. Not all Sargents are created equal. A species rather than a variety, many of the Sargents have been started from seed: hence the variability. This one comes from the front entrance of the Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, MA. Densely and horizontally branched from the base with no tendency to develop a central leader. Barely 8' tall and over 30' wide, a delightful jumble of twists and curves—like a dozen connected pretzels all trying to out-pretzel each other. Pink buds and profuse pure-white fragrant single flowers that seem to bloom forever. Very small dark red-purple persistent fruit. Disease resistant. Z4.

473A Sargent (Mt Auburn) Crabapple, $29.00

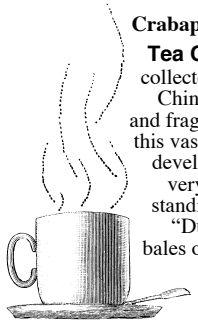
Crabapples are really just apples in disguise. They prefer full sun and deep well-drained soils of 5.5–6.5 pH, but they are quite forgiving and will thrive in many locations with a little TLC. They don't like to be drowned or starved for water, and they *do* need to be protected from borers, mice and deer. See instructions on pages 6 and 7.

Pruning Crabapples

Most crabapples require little or no pruning except when a branch is broken or you feel compelled to shape your tree in one way or another. Allow each tree to assume its own unique form.



Crabapples continued



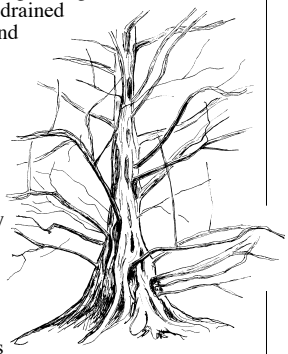
Tea Crab 16x25' *M. hupehensis* **Accession 324-55*B**. First collected by E.H. Wilson in 1908 in Yichang, western Hubei, China, and introduced by the Arnold Arboretum. Pink buds and fragrant white flowers cover every inch of every branch of this vase-shaped tree. The leaves and red-cheeked yellow fruit develop out of hundreds of short spurs that cover the tree. A very distinct appearance. Horizontal branching habit. Outstanding crimson to purple fall color. In 1914 Wilson wrote, "During the day's journey we met several men laden with bales of pear and crabapple leaves. The leaves are commonly used as a substitute for tea, and there is a considerable export from these parts." Disease resistant. Z4.

474A Tea Crabapple, $29.00

Wild Sweet Crabapple 30x30' *M. coronaria* Large wide-spreading form. Deep pink plump buds and pink and white flowers. In full bloom the tree takes on a peachy pink hue. One of the most fragrant blooms of all crabs. A bowl of the 1" greenish-yellow fruit will scent the whole room. Shaggy grey trunk and beech-like smooth silver branches. These are seedlings, not grafted, so each will be slightly different. Native to the eastern U.S. from New York south and west to the Mississippi River. Late blooming. Z4.

476A Sweet Crabapple, $29.00

***Mespilus germanica* 'Breda Giant' Medlar** 12-20' Introduced in the Netherlands. Cinnamon-flavored spicy pear-like fruit shaped like a large rose hip, just under 2" in diameter. Good eating when ripe, thin-skinned with applesauce-like texture. Fruit cultivated in Europe and England since the Middle Ages or earlier, and still considered a culinary delight. One source recommends roasting in butter with citrus slices. Also makes good jelly, paste, chutney and "cheese." Fruit is hard when harvested after the first hard frost and must be bletted—allowed to ripen for several weeks in a cool place. Tastes best just before it turns mushy. 1–2" white flowers blushed with pink bloom May to June. Shiny green waxy leaves, a nice addition to the landscape. Begins bearing fruit 2–3 years after planting. One tree could bear 20 lbs of fruit once established. Plant in well-drained fertile soil, 9–10' from other trees. Full sun. Pest and disease free. Native to southeast Europe and Iran. Self-fertile. Z4/5. **ME Grown.** (2-4')



482A Breda Giant Medlar, $29.00

***Metasequoia glyptostroboides* Dawn Redwood** 100' One of the most spectacular of the ornamental trees. The wide irregular trunk looks like something out of a fairy tale with its iridescent golden-orange bark that becomes deeply grooved, hollowed and fluted with age. The bright green deciduous needles turn orange in the fall. Grows quickly, up to 50' in 15–20 years, with many small-diameter horizontal branches and a uniform conical habit. Give it lots of space to grow! Highly adaptable, easy to transplant. Prefers moist deep well-drained slightly acid soil in full sun. Will tolerate wet or dry sites. Pollution resistant; good specimen or street tree, rarely needs pruning. Fossils dating back 50 million years have been found in Japan. Thought to be extinct until it was "rediscovered" in central China in 1941. Resembles California redwoods only vaguely. Native to China and Japan. Z4. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

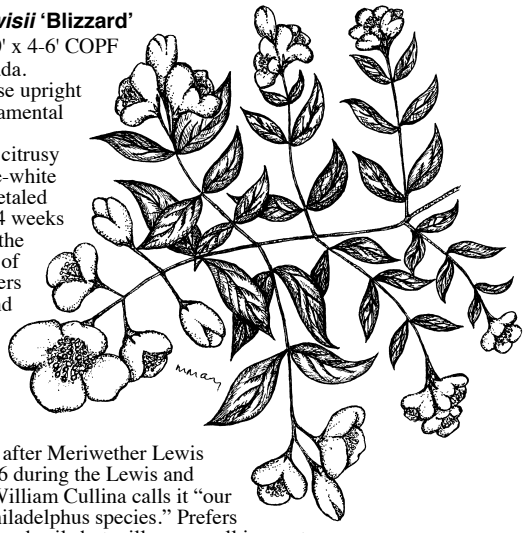
483A Dawn Redwood, $14.25

***Myrica pensylvanica* Bayberry** 5-10' x same. Rounded deciduous semi-evergreen very salt-tolerant shrub thrives in full sun to partial shade and in sandy poor soils to heavy clay soils. A common sight on Maine's coastal islands. Rubbing the glossy deep green leaves between your fingers produces one of the most delicious smells in the world. Leaf and root teas are medicinal. Small greyish-blue waxy berries produced on female plants are highly aromatic, historically used for making candles. Non-showy flowers appear in late spring followed by fruit production during summer into late fall. Plants feed numerous wildlife species and are especially craved by swallows. Excellent in masses or hedges, tends to sucker. Fixes nitrogen. Tends toward being dioecious: **male and female plants required for good fruit development**. We're offering unsexed plants; plant several if you desire fruit. Native to eastern U.S. Z2. (1-3')

484A Bayberry, $15.00

484B Bayberry, bundle of 5, $65.00

***Philadelphus lewisii* 'Blizzard' Mockorange** 3-10' x 4-6' COPF intro, Alberta, Canada. Medium-sized coarse upright loosely arching ornamental blooming shrub. A "blizzard" of sweet citrusy fragrance from pure-white slightly cupped 4-petaled blossoms for up to 4 weeks in late spring, after the lilacs fade. A spray of golden-yellow anthers attractive to bees and butterflies accents each flower. The contrast of the flowers and deep dark blue-green foliage is lovely. Species was named after Meriwether Lewis who noted it in 1806 during the Lewis and Clark Expedition. William Cullina calls it "our most ornamental Philadelphus species." Prefers moist rich well-drained soils but will grow well in most conditions. Full sun to partial shade. Since blossoms form on prior year's growth, best to prune after flowering. Similar to old-fashioned European *P. coronarius*, but this one is native to North America. Z3. (1-3')



486A Blizzard Mockorange, $14.25

***Physocarpus opulifolius* 'Diabolo' Ninebark** 8-10' x same. Hybridized by Gunter Kordes and Hans Schadendorf, 1968, and later introduced by Monrovia Nursery, 1999. Selected in a field of over 120,000 seedlings near Hamburg, Germany, for its red foliage, which stood out from all the typical green ninebarks. Pink rosy buds form in early May and open up to creamy white inflorescences (called corymbs) consisting of 30–60 tiny flowers, the kind pollinators love. Early flowers when not a lot else is blooming. Alternate roundish-ovate leaves have 3 to 5 lobes with a slightly serrated edge reminiscent of highbush cranberry. Foliage adds visual texture to any garden space but beautiful in hedges and borders. When leaves drop in fall, exfoliating brown bark is exposed, a nice accent to the winter garden. Upright stiff branches, slightly spreading. Easy to grow with few maintenance needs or disease problems. Drought tolerant. Grows well in neutral to acid soils. Species native Quebec to Virginia and inland. Z2. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

487A Diabolo Ninebark, $14.25

A few pruning guidelines:

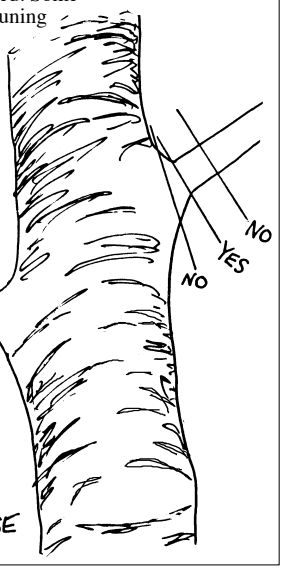
• **Summer-Flowering Shrubs** should be pruned in late winter or early spring, before the new wood begins to grow. These shrubs blossom on the new wood they produce in the spring.

• **Spring-Flowering Shrubs** form flower buds in the summer, after they are finished blooming. Prune them immediately after their bloom is over. If you wait and prune them in the winter or following spring, you will likely remove many flowering buds.

• A common error is to prune shrubs straight across the top. This encourages top-growth and the lower part of the shrub becomes woody and unsightly with less foliage. Proper pruning promotes growth at the base of the shrub.

• Observe your plants and see what they need. Some trees and shrubs benefit from aggressive pruning each year and might even respond well to being cut all the way back to the ground; others will respond by delaying fruit or blossom. Some plants thrive with little or no pruning.

• Overgrown shrubs with little foliage near the base may be rejuvenated by cutting canes down to the ground in early March, even though early blooms may be sacrificed that year. They will send forth new shoots in late spring and will be bushy with foliage clear to the ground. Pinch off tops when the desired height is attained. It usually takes two to three years to rejuvenate shrubs and hedges completely.



WHEN PRUNING LIVING OR DEAD BRANCHES, DO NOT REMOVE THE 'COLLAR' AT THE BRANCH BASE

Conifers tolerate a wide range of soil conditions, but prefer a pH between 5.5–6.5. If you are planting in dry or well-drained areas, dip tree roots in Agri-gel solution before planting to protect roots from drying out. Do not use Agri-gel in heavy clay soils or wet areas. Do not soak conifers overnight; a good dipping is sufficient.

Before planting, prune off 1/3 of the roots. Dig a small hole or make an incision with a spade or planting bar and slip the tree in to the level it grew in the nursery, never below. Fan the roots out; do not wind them around in the hole. It is much better to prune the roots than to crowd them in the hole. Water well and pack the earth down with your feet to remove air pockets.

Young conifers need 3/4-1" of rain per week. Periodic deep waterings are far more beneficial than frequent sprinklings. No fertilization is necessary in the first year. In later years you may fertilize around the drip line.

To make evergreens dense and compact, remove central leader and center bud on the end of each side branch.

Picea abies **Norway Spruce** 80' Fast-growing wide-spreading upright picturesque tree with graceful long pendulous branches that often reach the ground. Largest of the spruces. If you go to the Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, MA, don't miss the ancient Norway Spruce just inside the front gate. Several of its massive drooping branches have rooted and turned into secondary trunks. It is truly amazing. Orange-brown scaly bark. Excellent lumber. Showy 4–6" cones. Bright green foliage. Prefers loam but does better than other spruces in poorer soils. Native to northern Europe. Grown in Maine. Z2. (9-18")

488A Norway Spruce, bundle of 5, $19.00

In Admiration of Old Trees

A single mature tree often lends feeling to a place, and when in just the right spot, it's hard to imagine the scene without the tree there. I often get overly excited thinking about all the different kinds of trees I would like to plant and where they will all go. From nuts and apricots to Katsura and oak. But then I notice how one giant beautiful tree can be just right. Not crowded by other trees, just planted in the perfect spot where it has plenty of open space to stand up to its fullest potential. Sometimes these grand trees were planted by forward-thinking persons, but often I think they just got there on their own. I think of all the different things that have happened around the tree since it was young, and how over the past few hundred years it has seen more changes than I ever will in my lifetime. Lately I've been admiring the stand of old Eastern White Pines that grow straight and high above the house, giving a feeling of security and comfort whether it's freezing and blowing at –10° or a hot and humid 95°. On a trip to Japan last year I got to see the oldest trees I've ever laid eyes on, including a 700-year-old cedar and an ancient ginkgo well over 3' in diameter. Although there was nice understory and other shrubs and plants around, the big trees were planted in such a way that they could be admired without interference for many generations to come. Something to think about while out planting tiny little trees.

–Lauren Cormier

Agri-gel A hydrogel formulation that absorbs and holds water. The swollen crystals adhere to plant roots, reducing transplant shock. Safe, nontoxic, easy to use. Useful for garden seedlings as well as woody plants. Highly recommended for raspberries and conifers. Half-ounce packet mixed with 1 to 3 gallons of water will treat up to 100 cane plants, or 50 trees and shrubs. *Not allowed for organic certification.* 1/2 oz.

L575A Agrigel, $3.00

P. pungens **var. *glauca* Colorado Blue Spruce** 30-60' Very popular specimen tree with truer blue foliage than other varieties. Can be used as a screen, as it is fast growing after 3'. There's a beautiful specimen on a lawn facing the Kennebec River near the Hinckley Bridge that owners have dubbed "Bruce the Spruce." So lovely you might want to name yours. Does not like wet soil. Extra spring nitrogen will improve blue color, which doesn't appear for first few years. Native to western U.S. Z2. (1-3')

489A Colorado Blue Spruce, bundle of 5, $19.00

Pinus strobus **Eastern White Pine** 100' or more. The largest northeastern conifer. Magnificent and massive when mature. Smooth greyish-green bark becomes thick, rough and deeply furrowed with age. A cup of pine needle tea has more vitamin C than a cup of orange juice; Native Americans showed early white explorers how to brew it and stave off scurvy. The resin has numerous practical and medicinal applications. Excellent wood with a thousand uses. When grown in abandoned fields, it develops huge curving branches. Grown in the forest it will typically be "clear" for the first 30–80'. Planted thick and sheared, it makes a beautiful hedge that won't drop its lower branches. Likes ordinary to poor—even sandy—soil. Shade tolerant, but does not like salt or roadsides. Fast-growing. Native eastern U.S. Grown in Maine. Z3. (9-18")

490A Eastern White Pine, bundle of 5, $19.00

White Pine Cough Syrup

Folks are always asking for my White Pine Syrup recipe. I always tell them it's a waiting game. A practice in patience. The first time I made it was a process of discovery. I had no recipe to follow and didn't measure a thing. Some of the best recipes come from reckless abandon in the kitchen.

At the height of summer eastern white pines start to drop their beautiful green cones all over the ground. One summer while wandering through my favorite patch of pines I picked up 6 or 7 of the sticky cones and brought them home to make a tincture. I sliced them lengthwise and popped them into a pint jar and doused them with vodka and put them in a cool dark place and waited.

September is the best time to find local honey. I bought a pint from a friend and infused it with slices of fresh ginger root and set it in a cool dark place and waited.

By the time October rolled around it was time to make root tincture from my echinacea patch. I made about pint of that and set it aside in a cool dark place and waited.

Before I knew it February was upon me and I had a cough that was keeping me up at night. So one sunny afternoon I bundled up and wandered through the neighbor's fields and woods in search of white pine bark. There was a single pasture pine in the center of the field—glorious in its nature—perfectly built for climbing. I climbed up about midway and noticed some old wounds on the trunk where patches of sap had worked their way through and aged in the elements. I happened to have an empty Altoid's container in my pocket and a handy jack knife so I scraped the sticky goo off the trunk and into the tin, snapped it shut and stuck in my pocket.

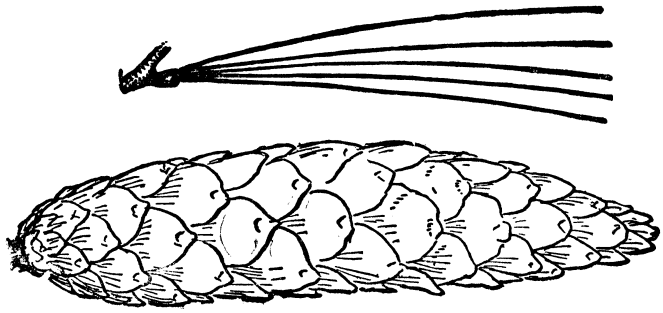
On the way down from the tree I carefully removed a small amount of bark from a damaged limb and a handful of needles from the end of the branch. Off I went to make some syrup.

Back at the house I pawed through my cupboard and found the jar of echinacea and the tinctured pine cones. In a kettle I combined the pine bark and needles with some water and simmered it for 20 minutes or so then pulled it off the heat to let it cool. Once it cooled I removed the bark.

I scraped the pine pitch out of the tin and gently heated it in a separate pot until it melted just enough for me to pull out any pieces of dirt and detritus. I pulled it off the heat and poured the pine bark liquid onto the pitch and stirred it up and set it aside to cool. I then added some echinacea tincture and some of the mysterious pine-cone tincture followed by enough of the gingered honey to make a nice syrupy consistency. The waiting was over!

I got out a shot glass and settled in by the fire for a little nip. It was delicious! That night my cough became more productive and by the next day I was feeling a lot better but had developed a new problem. The syrup was so delicious that my roommates managed to polish it off by the end of the weekend!

–Laura Childs



Page	Name	Native	Edible Landscape	Medicinal	Orchard Companion	Drought Tolerant	Wet Tolerant	Shade	Hedges	Specimen	Ground Cover	Vine or Climber
34	Abelia								♦	♦		
39	Amelanchier, Juneberry	♦	♦			♦	♦		♦			
10-19	Apple		♦							♦		
24	Apricot		♦									
57	Arborvitae	♦		♦			♦	♦	♦			
67	Arnica	♦		♦	♦		♦				♦	
40	Asparagus		♦						♦			
48	Bayberry	♦		♦		♦		♦	♦			
39	Bearberry	♦		♦		♦					♦	
68	Bee Balm, Wild	♦		♦								
41	Birch, Paper	♦					♦			♦		
29	Blackberry	♦	♦						♦			
67	Black Cohosh	♦		♦			♦	♦		♦		
52	Black Locust											
28	Blueberry, Highbush	♦	♦		♦		♦		♦	♦		
28	Blueberry, Lowbush	♦	♦	♦		♦					♦	
68	Boneset	♦		♦	♦		♦		♦	♦		
39	Buckeye, Red	♦		♦					♦	♦		
56	Buffalo Berry	♦	♦	♦		♦						
41	Butterfly Bush					♦			♦	♦		
59	Butterfly Weed	♦		♦	♦	♦						
41	Catalpa	♦								♦		
24-25	Cherry, Sweet, Pie		♦							♦		
43	Cherry, Cornelian		♦			♦			♦	♦		
52	Cherry, Dwarf Sour		♦						♦			
52	Cherry, Nanking		♦						♦			
41	Chestnut, American	♦	♦			♦				♦		
40	Chokeberry, Red, Black	♦	♦	♦		♦	♦		♦			
68	Comfrey			♦	♦			♦	♦			
66	Comfrey, Russian				♦			♦	♦			
46-48	Crabapple		♦						♦	♦		
57	Cranberry, American	♦	♦	♦		♦	♦				♦	
58	Cranberry, Highbush	♦	♦	♦			♦		♦	♦		
48	Dawn Redwood						♦			♦		
44	Diervilla	♦				♦						
42	Dogwood, Kousa		♦				♦		♦	♦		
42	Dogwood, Pagoda	♦			♦			♦		♦		
43	Dogwood, Redosier	♦			♦		♦		♦			
42	Dogwood, Silky	♦			♦		♦		♦			
39	Dutchman's Pipe	♦						♦				♦
67	Echinacea	♦		♦	♦	♦						
55	Elderberry	♦	♦	♦	♦		♦		♦	♦		
57	Elm, American	♦				♦	♦			♦		
61	Fern	♦					♦	♦			♦	
34	Fir, Balsam	♦		♦				♦	♦	♦		
44	Forsythia								♦	♦		
60	Foxglove, native	♦			♦			♦		♦		
67	Ginger, Wild	♦	♦	♦				♦			♦	
44	Ginkgo		♦	♦						♦		
64	Goldenrod, Stiff	♦			♦					♦		
31-32	Grape	♦	♦			♦						♦
39	Groundnut	♦	♦				♦					♦
43	Hawthorn		♦	♦					♦	♦		
43	Hazelnut	♦	♦					♦	♦			
45	Heartnut		♦							♦		
41	Heather		♦	♦		♦			♦	♦		
41	Hickory, Shagbark	♦	♦							♦		
46	Honeyberry		♦	♦		♦			♦			

Page	Name	Native Plant	Edible Landscape	Medicinal Plant	Orchard Companion	Drought Tolerant	Wet Tolerant	Shade Tolerant	Hedges	Specimen	Ground Cover	Vine or Climber
44	Hops			♦				♦				♦
39	Horseradish		♦									
62	Hosta							♦		♦		
45	Hydrangea, Oakleaf	♦							♦			
45	Hydrangea, Pee Gee									♦		
68	Hyssop			♦	♦	♦			♦			
62	Iris, Siberian						♦			♦		
62	Iris, Northern Blue Flag	♦					♦			♦		
42	Katsura Tree									♦		
34	Kiwi, Hardy		♦									♦
63	Lavender			♦		♦			♦	♦		
56-57	Lilac					♦			♦	♦		
60	Lily of the Valley					♦		♦			♦	
57	Linden	♦	♦	♦				♦		♦		
58	Lingonberry	♦	♦			♦					♦	
64	Lobelia	♦			♦		♦	♦				
34	Maple, Red	♦					♦			♦		
34	Maple, Silver	♦					♦			♦		
34	Maple, Sugar	♦	♦					♦		♦		
67	Marshmallow			♦					♦			
48	Medlar		♦							♦		
48	Mockorange	♦							♦	♦		
41	New Jersey Tea	♦		♦		♦						
48	Ninebark	♦				♦			♦			
52	Oak, Red	♦	♦							♦		
52	Oak, White	♦	♦				♦			♦		
25-26	Peach		♦							♦		
22-23	Pear		♦							♦		
23	Pear, Asian		♦							♦		
41	Peashrub, Siberian		♦		♦	♦			♦			
49	Pine, White	♦		♦				♦	♦	♦		
52	Plum, Beach	♦	♦			♦			♦			
27	Plum, European		♦							♦		
26-27	Plum, Hybrid		♦						♦			
65	Pulmonaria							♦			♦	
42	Quince, flowering		♦						♦	♦		
29	Raspberry	♦	♦	♦					♦			
42	Redbud	♦								♦		
52	Rhubarb		♦	♦								
54	Rosa rugosa		♦	♦		♦			♦			
53	Rose, Apothecary's			♦						♦		
53	Rose, Charles de Mills		♦	♦						♦		
53	Rose, Chloris									♦		
53	Rose, Cinnamon								♦	♦		
54	Rose, Scabrosa		♦	♦						♦		
65	Sage, Russian					♦				♦		
56	Schisandra Berry			♦				♦		♦		♦
43	Smokebush					♦			♦	♦		
65	Solomon's Seal	♦		♦				♦	♦			
45	Spicebush	♦	♦	♦			♦	♦	♦			
49	Spruce, Colorado Blue	♦				♦			♦	♦		
49	Spruce, Norway					♦			♦	♦		
30	Strawberry		♦								♦	
68	Strawberry, Alpine	♦	♦	♦							♦	
42	Summersweet, Clethra	♦			♦		♦	♦	♦	♦		
68	Sweet Cicely		♦	♦	♦	♦						
66	Tansy				♦	♦	♦	♦	♦			
46	Tuliptree	♦								♦		
60	Turtlehead, White	♦					♦	♦				
58	Viburnum, Black Haw	♦	♦	♦	♦	♦			♦			
58	Viburnum, Nannyberry	♦	♦		♦				♦			
45	Walnut	♦	♦	♦						♦		
58	Weigela								♦	♦		
54	Willow, Blue Leaf Arctic				♦		♦	♦	♦			
54	Willow, Pussy				♦		♦		♦	♦		
54	Willow, Weeping			♦			♦			♦		
45	Winterberry	♦		♦			♦		♦			
44	Witch Hazel	♦		♦			♦	♦	♦	♦		
67	Yarrow	♦		♦	♦	♦						

***Prunus* x *kerrasis* 'Carmine Jewel' Dwarf Sour Cherry** About 6-7' x same. Midsummer. University of Saskatchewan intro, 1999. New crosses between sour and Mongolian cherries are causing a great deal of excitement in fruit-growing circles. Delicious dark purple fruits, with purple flesh and small pits, are approximately the size of small sour cherries and ripen in early July. Good for both fresh eating and processing. Some growers have reported getting 20–30 lbs per bush after 3–5 years. In our trials we saw fruit after only three years and have found Carmine to be the best-suited for our climate. Compact plant size keeps the fruit within reach and makes it far easier to net against birds than a standard cherry tree. Prefers full sun and decent soil with a pH of about 6.5. Pamper them with mineral amendments and compost. Self-pollinating. Rare. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

491A Carmine Jewel Dwarf Sour Cherry, $21.00

***P. maritima* Beach Plum** 6' x 5-6' Rounded dense suckering shrub found along ocean beaches, New Brunswick to the Carolinas. In spring, beautiful showy white blooms cover the dark branches. Purplish-red 1/2–1" fruit in late summer. Excellent jams, sauces and especially jelly. Although typically found growing naturally in poor sandy soils, the plants thrive in well-drained fertile soils with a pH of 6–6.5. Additional fertilization will further increase productivity. We suggest an annual 5-gallon bucket or two of compost per plant. Prune to maintain an open center for good light penetration. Plant about 5' apart. Although pollination requirements are uncertain, **we recommend planting at least two for good fruiting**. Salt tolerant! Native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

492A Beach Plum, $14.50

***P. tomentosa* Nanking Cherry** 6-10' x same. Broad dense highly ornamental fruiting shrub, becoming open and attractively irregular. One of the earliest flowering fruits every spring. Pink buds open to masses of fragrant white 3/4" flowers. Deeply veined light green foliage with very fine fuzz (tomentum) lining each vein underneath. Excellent hedge plant: an edible landscape crop that produces a lot of fruit that actually *is* edible! Scarlet 1/2" fruit in early summer ranges in flavor from mild to tart and in color from scarlet to clear red to pink and sometimes even white. Eat fresh or frozen. Excellent jelly and fruit leather. Said to make a good pie but pitting would require quite a bit of work. Covering plants with netting will deter birds from robbing your crop. Prefers full sun in well-drained soil. **Plant two or more for pollination.** Native to China and Japan. Z2. (1-3')

493A Nanking Cherry, $14.50

***Quercus* Oak** Many oaks are native to New England. They are generally divided into two groups: the reds and the whites. The reds have pointier leaves and the whites have rounder ones. Most of them make absolutely breathtaking shade trees, having the capacity to provide a major presence in almost any landscape. All can be categorized as both edible and medicinal. The strongly astringent inner bark, foliage and acorn caps are all medicinal. Most importantly however, acorns were an extremely important human food source for thousands of years. Contrary to much of the literature, all acorns are edible, both reds and whites. (For detailed instructions on acorn processing, see Samuel Thayer's book, *Nature's Garden*.) Oaks are monoecious so you need only one to get fruit.

***Q. alba* White Oak** 60-80' with same spread. Spectacular broad irregularly rounded oak with low-lying branches that stretch out horizontally from the trunk, sometimes as much as 50'. Some extremely fine specimens in Maine grow on Swan Island in the Kennebec River right off Richmond. Bark is finely grooved and etched. Wood is valued for lumber and firewood. Once common along the Maine coast, it was almost entirely stripped for boat-building lumber over a century ago. Soil adaptable though it prefers deep moist well-drained acid conditions. Thrives in locations where leaves can be left at the base; avoid soil compaction, even foot traffic. Disease and insect resistant, drought tolerant. Slow growing and extremely long-lived. Native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-4')

494A White Oak, $15.00

***Q. rubra* Red Oak** 60-75' with 45' spread. Also called **Northern Red Oak**. The most common oak in northern New England and a common tree in central Maine. Typically a single large trunk dividing into several large ascending spreading branches. While the branches are not as massive as some of the other oaks, its open rounded crown is magnificent. The trunk is a deep grey textured web of surfaces overlaid one upon another. Sharply toothed foliage turns orange-tan during apple season. Fast growing, up to 2' per year. Prefers well-drained sandy slightly acid soils. Those on our farm thrive in the shallow ledgy ground. Tolerates shade, compacted soil, salt, pollution and other urban conditions. Native to eastern U.S. Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-4')

495A Red Oak, $15.00

***Rheum rhabarbarum* Rhubarb** Early Summer. Famous for pie and wine, but also good in sauce, bread, juice, soup or cooked with meat and fish. Rhubarb's clumps of juicy acid leaf stalks were once a staple food. The root is a toning purgative herb traditionally used every spring for thousands of years. There are dozens if not hundreds of rhubarb varieties. May have originated in Siberia and been carried across Asia on the Silk Road to Turkey and then into Europe. Victorian cookbooks included rhubarb compotes, fools and charlottes. Eventually brought to North America through the efforts of Ben Franklin and John Bartram. Low-maintenance, will continue through summer if flower stalks are removed and new leaves allowed to grow. Water during dry spells for extended season. Plant crowns 2–4' apart in rows 3–4' apart. Add compost. Leaves are *not* edible. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1-yr crowns)

***R. r.* 'Glaskins Perpetual'** Long juicy vigorous stalks are green with blushes of red. Leaves are more pleated than ruffled. Acid levels remain low for tasty late-season harvests, hence the name. First listed in England in 1920.

L496A Glaskins Perpetual Rhubarb, $11.50

***R. r.* 'Victoria' Rhubarb** Summer. Joseph Myatt intro, Manor Farm, Deptford, England, 1837. Heirloom variety with thick bright red tender citrusy tart stalks. Named to honor the Queen. Some say it was this variety that popularized rhubarb in both the U.K. and the States.

L497A Victoria Rhubarb, $11.50

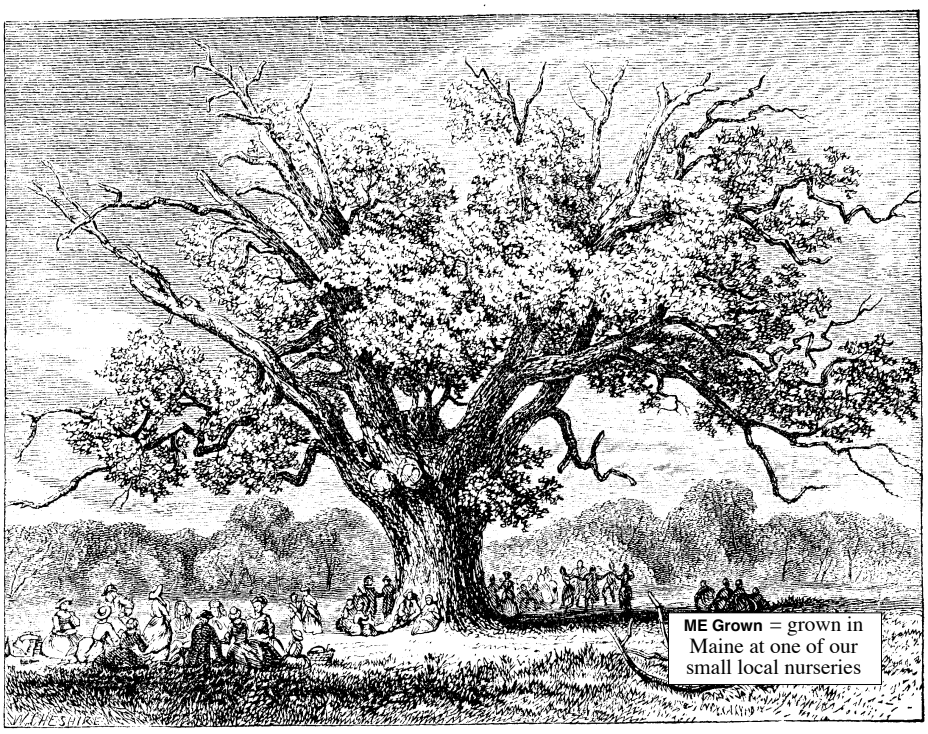
Rhubarb

Plant the top of the root division level with the surface in well-prepared well-drained rich slightly acid soil (pH 5.5–6.5). Add a bushel of well-rotted manure or compost under each crown. When plants is established, fertilize liberally with manure and balanced garden fertilizer or compost every spring, as it's a heavy feeder. Harvest for four weeks two years after planting. Thereafter you can harvest for 8–10 weeks each year. Never remove more than 2/3 of the stalks from a plant.

Every ten years or so, divide plants in early spring, leaving about 1/3 of the crown in place. Cut up the remainder into fist-sized pieces and replant.

***Robinia pseudoacacia* Black Locust** 30-50' with same spread. A very fast-growing upright nitrogen-fixing leguminous tree with extremely fragrant pendulous racemes of white flowers in early summer. Blossoms attract more bees than any other plant on our property and make the most excellent honey. Sprinkle edible flowers on salad, or brew into a wine with incredibly floral bouquet. Very ornamental pinnately compound leaves. Roots are medicinal as a poultice for infection. Rot-resistant lumber makes it one of the best for boat-building, and fence posts last an incredible 50 years or more. Great firewood tree. With space and time it can grow to be very large. Will develop thickets from seed and suckers. Weed them out and leave the ones you want. Woody branches develop thorns. Adaptable to nearly all soils and can survive the toughest conditions. Native to the eastern U.S. Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-4')

498A Black Locust, $17.00



ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

***Rosa* Rose** For millennia, humans have been beguiled by the rose. The first cultivation of these flowers dates back more than 5000 years in China. Fossil records suggest that roses may have been around for more than 30 million years. Regarded as the ultimate icon of love, grace, beauty and elegance, roses continue to be the subject of art and poetry across the world.

And there's more! Roses have long been used in medicine, food, tea and essential oils. In the first century, Pliny the Elder recorded over 30 uses of rose medicine! Rose leaves, petals, hips and roots all have medicinal properties to treat a range of disorders from wounds to stomach problems. Rose hips are rich in vitamin C and make a wonderful "rose apple" jam; rose-petal elixir calms the nerves and lifts the spirit; rose water is used in delicious recipes; rose-petal jam is fantastic!

Each year, we aim to offer a diverse selection of hard-to-find rose varieties. If your favorite is not on the list this year, we may offer it in the future. Unlike hybrid tea roses, these roses are not to be pampered; all are vigorous, rugged, hard to kill, exceedingly hardy and disease and pest resistant. Many of our roses are propagated and grown without pesticides in a small nursery in Canada, just over the border. See our Rose sidebar for detailed cultural information. Native to temperate regions around the world. (1-3')

***R.* 'Campfire'** 2-3' x same. Complex hybrid. Morden Stn, 2003. Introduced in 2013 through the Canadian Artist Series after rigorous trialing for cold hardiness. Continuously blooming from summer until hard frost. Multicolored 3" flowers are nearly yellow at first with deep pink on the outermost edges of the petals, changing over time entirely to deep pink. Looking down on the flower you can see where the name came from—it seems to be glowing from the center like smoldering embers. Dark green glossy leaves are outlined by a thin red line and are much more resistant to foliar diseases than most roses. Named after Thomas Thomson's 1916 painting of an evening campfire with glowing yellow light. Z3.

505A Campfire Rose, $16.00

***R.* 'Emily Carr'** 4-5' x same. Complex cross derived from Cuthbert Grant. Collicutt intro, Canadian Artist Series, AAFC, Morden Stn, 2007. If you're looking for the classic red shrub rose, this is it. Scarlet semi-double 3" flowers bloom nonstop spring until fall, for about 10 weeks. Flowers have faint fragrance. New shoots emerge yellow-green and in fall green foliage turns golden and then red. Upright bushy habit. Disease resistant. Named for famous Canadian painter Emily Carr. Z3.

506A Emily Carr Rose, $16.00

***R.* 'John Cabot'** 6-9' x same. [*Rosa kordesii* Wulff x (Masquerade x *Rosa laxa*)] F. Svejda intro, Canadian Explorer Series, AAFC, Morden Stn, 1978. Deep pink double flowers 3" wide scatter along tall canes, blooming repeatedly until frost. Slightly fragrant. Long canes can be trained to an arbor, stonewall, fencepost, even a tree or allowed to arch freely as a mounding shrub. Glossy medium-green foliage is disease resistant. Z3.

507A John Cabot Rose, $16.00

Roses prefer full sun (at least 4–6 hrs per day) and a pH of 6.0–7.0. Space them 4–6' apart. They will do well in most well-drained soils with a good amount of organic matter. In locations with poor drainage, add gravel at the bottom of the planting hole, or build in drainage. Pick a site with good air drainage, but avoid sites with cold northwest winds. Avoid competition with tree roots

Plant roses as early as soil can be worked. Most roses' roots don't spread beyond the original hole, so dig a bushel-sized hole, as deep as 2' or more. We recommend a bale of rotten hay in the bottom of the planting hole. Mix soil with liberal quantities of well-rotted manure and compost. Add a coffee-can full of rock phosphate or bone meal.

Soak roots in water overnight or up to three days before planting. Prior to planting, prune roses back to 3 canes, 2–5" tall. Plant them 1" below the level they were in the nursery. Add water as you fill in the hole to puddle it in. Mound soil around branches to prevent them from drying out, and to encourage buds to sprout. As the buds open, pull back the soil to the correct level.

Shrub roses and climbers will require little pruning in later years. Any pruning should wait until after the forsythia blooms. Remove dead or broken branches, and periodically cut out the oldest wood. Keep roses well mulched to retain moisture and reduce weeds. Add 2 shovelfuls of composted manure to each crown late in the fall. For more information see Suzanne Verrier's pamphlet *Growing Old-Fashioned Hardy Roses Organically,* available in the book section of our Seed Catalog.

***R.* 'Marie Bugnet'** 3x3' [(Therese Bugnet x seedling) x F.J. Grootendorst] Bugnet, Canada, 1963. Rugosa hybrid, pronounced Boo-nyay. Delicate pink-streaked buds open to pure white clusters of exceptionally fragrant 3" double blooms. Plant it where you can smell it! Begins blooming early and continues until fall. New foliage is light green and matures to olive. Vigorous red stems are particularly attractive in winter. Does not form hips. Disease resistant. Z3.

508A Marie Bugnet Rose, $16.00

***R. alba* 'Chloris'** 4-6' x 6-8' *Rosa alba* hybrid, pre-1820. Exact parentage unknown but believed to include *R. damascena*, *R. canina*, *R. corymbifera*, and *R. gallica*. Thornless fragrant pale blush-pink double flowers look ruffled from afar. Outer edges of petals are slightly jagged and unfurl out of a tightly folded center. It's the hardiest thornless rose that connoisseur Bob Osborne of Corn Hill Nursery knows. One of the main species grown for essential oil in Bulgaria for export to the perfume industry in France. Rose petals from half-opened blossoms are harvested between sunrise and 9:00 a.m. when the concentration of volatile oils is at its highest. Strong upright habit. Z4.

509A Chloris Rose, $16.00

***R. cinnamomea* 'Plena' Cinnamon Rose** 6 x 4-6' Large highly fragrant double pink ruffled-looking blossoms with strong fragrance of cloves. Rare species rose, most likely brought to North America by early settlers from France. Occasionally found near old abandoned farmsteads. Difficult to find commercially. Forms a dense low-growing thicket. Very little maintenance and will easily naturalize itself in a range of different soils and sites. Z4.

510A Plena Cinnamon Rose, $16.00

***R. foetida persiana* 'Persian Yellow'** 4-6' x same. Rehder, 1837. Heirloom species rose bears abundant double 2" bright yellow flowers on sprawling canes in early spring. Blooms only once a season, but when it does, it's covered. Imported from Persia to Europe where there were no true yellow roses. Included in parentage of almost all modern yellow hybrids. Recommended for northern areas where most other yellow roses won't survive. Upright densely branched habit. Unlike many roses, this one doesn't respond well to pruning so plant it where it can just do its thing. Susceptible to black spot so go easy on the water once the plant is established. Native to the Caucasus Mountains of Georgia. Z3.

511A Persian Yellow Rose, $16.00

***R. gallica* 'Charles de Mills'** 5x5' Parentage unknown. Most likely originated in Germany and named in France in the 1800s. Classic old garden rose with vivid ruby, purple and deep pink blossoms. Large aromatic very double blossoms open flat with petals so plentiful the flower naturally divides itself into "quarters." The soft velvety saucer-like blossoms appear to have been almost sheared across the top. One of the most popular and showy of all the gallicas. Robust hardy shrub, easy to grow in full sun and well-drained fertile soil. Dark glossy green foliage is moderately resistant to black spot and other foliar diseases when given sufficient air flow. Z4.

512A Charles de Mills Rose, $16.00

***R. g.* 'Officinalis' Apothecary's Rose** Quite possibly the first rose to be cultivated in European gardens, this ancient semi-double deeply fragrant crimson rose is as medicinal as it is charming. Four rows of soft silky petals center around a crown of golden stamens. The history goes back to the 11th century when it was brought to Provins, France, from Syria by returning Crusader Thibault IV, King of Navarre and Count of Champagne and Brie. It was noted how the dried petals retained their perfume, leading to an industry in France making everything from confections to essential oils with the petals of "Rose of Provins." Many modern roses are derived from this rose. Z4.

513A Apothecary's Rose, $16.00

Rosa rugosa 4-6' x same. Also called **Japanese Rose** or **Beach Rose**. Vigorous spreading shrub with dark green wrinkled (rugose) leaves. Flowers range from deep pink to white. Large edible red hips up to 1" are good for jams, teas and fresh eating right off the bush. Deb Soule of Avena Botanicals uses these petals in her much-loved Rose Petal Elixir. Considered by herbalists of Western, Chinese and Ayurvedic traditions to be rejuvenating and cooling. Blooms form on both old and new wood, so pruning necessary only to control size. Prefers full sun and well-drained fertile soil with a pH of 6–7, but will grow in depleted soil and even in sand. Tolerates salt, pollution and drought; practically care-free. Although native to China and Japan and assumed to have been brought here by sailors long ago, there is now reason to believe that the rugosas may have been here for many centuries and may even be native. Z2.

514A Rosa rugosa Rose, bundle of 4, $16.00

R. r.* 'Scabrosa'** 5x5' Harkness intro, UK, 1950. Also called ***R. superba. The epitome of the old-fashioned straight rugosa rose with all the excellent rugosa qualities to the max. Wonderfully fragrant, very large single deep mauve-pink flowers, showy yellow stamens. Huge orange-red hips reach the size of cherry tomatoes. One of the absolute best roses for the edible landscape. Recurrent bloomer. It's the perfect rugosa. No frills, no bells, no whistles. Just beautiful flowers and large hips. Large dense rounded shrub. Good fall foliage color. Extremely hardy. No disease issues ever. Z3.

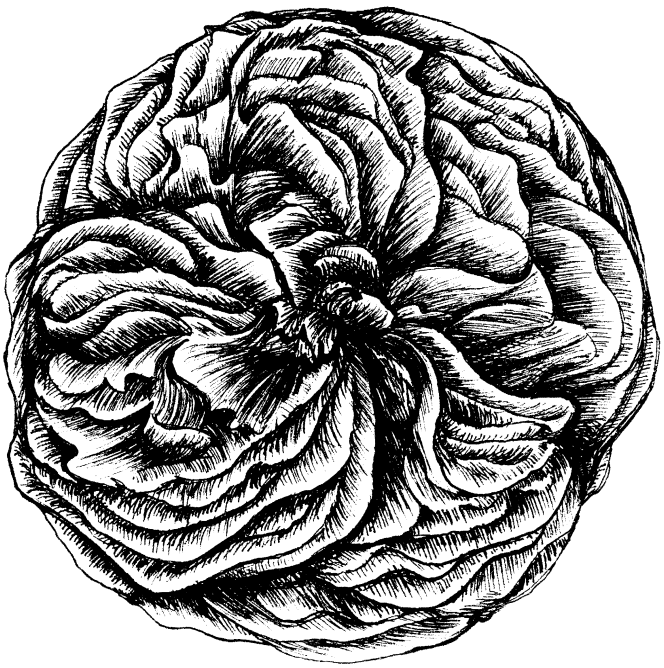
515A Scabrosa Rugosa Rose, $16.00

Roses of Antiquity

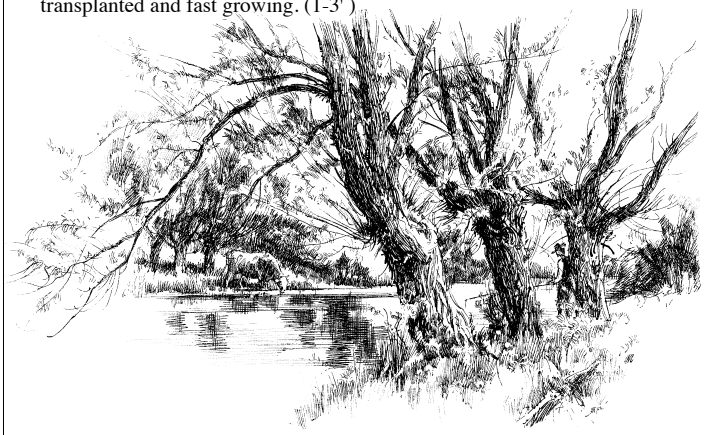
Roses grown in Europe before 1800 are referred to as "Old World" roses, including the cultivars of *Rosa gallica* and *R. alba*. They were pink in color, from the deepest dark purple of 'Cardinal de Richelieu' to just a faint blush of pink like that of 'Chloris.' There were no reds among these antique roses and, though rich in fragrance, they bloomed only once per season. In the late 1700s red roses with repeat blooming tendencies were introduced from China, completely shifting the focus of rose breeding to hybridizing for these traits. Demand for the aromatic and medicinal qualities of the Old World roses declined, in deference to flowers that lasted long though the season. The hybrids created since then are called "modern" roses and are much more commonly seen in gardens today.

R. gallica is considered the oldest rose and still grows wild in some places in the Caucasus, the mountainous region between the Black and Caspian seas, where it originated. Its exact origin is unknown but it can be traced back fourteen centuries when it was considered a symbol of love by the Persians. Most modern-day roses are presumed to be descendants of the *gallicas*. The aromatic petals hold their scent better than any other rose and have long been considered medicinal. This species contains hundreds of different cultivars, some very similar and others completely unique. Most have similar compact shrub habits and are generally very hardy.

The *albas* are almost as old as the *gallicas* and are also believed to have travelled west from the Caucasus with the Greeks and Romans. Many of the cultivars of *albas* were bred in the 1800s in Europe. Though they flower only once, they should not be overlooked, as their beauty and fragrance are unparalleled by any modern rose. They are considered "tree roses" with tall canes that can be trained to fences, pillars and stonewalls, like climbers. Unlike many roses, ***albas* bloom on old wood**—if pruned too heavily, they can take years to flower again. Like heirloom apples, they are actually more disease resistant than many of the modern hybrids.



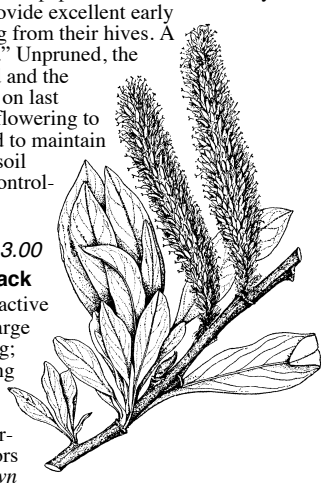
***Salix* Willow** The genus *Salix* comprises hundreds of different species of plants most commonly called willows but sometimes called **Osier** or **Sallow**. Willows grow all over the world. Some are towering specimens, like the weeping willow. Others are short scrubby bushes, like some willows growing in the arctic: only two feet tall but 100 years old! Uses include ornamental landscaping, shade, basket-making, erosion control, timber, fuel and medicine. All parts, especially the bark, contain salicin, used for relief of pain and fever for hundreds, or even thousands, of years. Aspirin is a synthetic analog of salicin. Willows feed local wildlife, insects and birds. We plant them near the orchard to provide early season forage for our native pollinators. All prefer sun and loamy wet soils, but are adaptable, easily transplanted and fast growing. (1-3')



***S. alba* 'Tristis' Niobe Weeping Willow** 50x50' The classic weeping willow, a very large majestic graceful wide-spreading tree. Golden drooping branches, which can hang to the ground, are used for basket weaving; golden bark and leaves used medicinally. Harvest twiggy branches in early spring to make a tincture. Buzzes with life when May flowers attract loads of pollinating bees. Native to southern Europe and western Asia. Z4. **ME Grown.**

519A Tristis Niobe Weeping Willow, $13.00

***S. discolor* 'Rosea' Pink Pussy Willow** 15-20' Large shrub or small tree is our harbinger of spring. In March, before the buds fully open, it's a ritual to tromp through the mud—or snow (sigh)—to harvest a bunch of shiny green stems, place them in a vase on the kitchen table and wait for the pearl-like flower buds (catkins) to peek through the dark red bud scales. The 1/2" catkins open silvery white with a deep pink core. Pollen-rich yellow anthers cover the mature catkins and provide excellent early forage for bees just as they are emerging from their hives. A lovely tree in every stage of "flowering." Unpruned, the branches will grow woody and skyward and the prize will be out of reach. Catkins form on last year's shoots. Prune immediately after flowering to avoid cutting off next year's catkins and to maintain small stature. Full sun to partial shade, soil adaptable but prefers moist. Useful in controlling soil erosion. Native to northeastern North America. Z4. **ME Grown.**



520A Pink Pussy Willow, $13.00

***S. gracilistyla* 'Melanostachys' Black Pussy Willow** 6-10' x same. Very attractive fast-growing plant for wetland areas. Large purple-black male catkins in early spring; cut branches are marvelous for the dining table or kitchen windowsill. The rather short foliage emerges orange and then turns a deep green. Stems turn a rich purple-black in winter. Attractive dark colors all year. Featured in the April 2011 *Down East* magazine article on willows. Winner of Royal Horticulture Society Award of Garden Merit. Prune in summer or fall. Adaptable. Prefers moist soil but will tolerate dry as well. Native to eastern Asia. Z4. **ME Grown.**

521A Black Pussy Willow, $13.00

***S. purpurea* 'Nana' Blue Leaf Arctic Willow** 3-5' x 3-6' Selection of Purple Osier willow. Medium-sized spreading shrub with small narrow blue foliage (actually greenish above and blue beneath) and delicate thin long red or green stems. The graceful thin stems sucker, layer and form a thick and highly attractive ornamental mass. Long cultivated and used for a fine-textured basket-making material. Excellent bank or hedge plant, especially in wet areas but also quite suitable for a highly visible location. We've seen it used in a perennial bed; it looked great. If it gets too overgrown, cut it to the ground every couple of years and it'll come right back. Native Europe to North Africa to Japan. Z3. **ME Grown.**

522A Nana Blue Leaf Arctic Willow, $13.00

***Sambucus* Elderberry** 6-12' x same. This amazing plant has more attributes than we can list! Dangling clusters of edible purple-black berries ripen in late summer on this broad vigorous multi-stemmed shrub. The fruit is highly nutritious and medicinal. A century ago, everyone's grandmother knew how to make the perfect elderberry pie. Recipes for jam could be found in all the old farm cookbooks. Elderberries are making a big comeback as folks rediscover the scrumptiousness of elderberry jelly, cordial, elixir and wine. The large creamy-white flower clusters, or cymes, that cover the shrub in early summer make delicious fritters. Dry them for a fragrant wintertime cold-and-flu remedy tea. For centuries, humans have used this plant's medicinal qualities to treat a wide range of ailments and to boost the immune system. Hippocrates is said to have called the elder tree his "medicine chest." Birds love the fruit, and the blossoms attract beneficial insects and pollinators. Elderberry trees appear in myths from days of yore, thought to possess magical and protective powers. Very disease resistant, no major insect problems. Elderberries are low-maintenance and easy to grow. With a little attention, they will provide strong yields of fruit for several decades. Considered self-fertile but multiple plants will improve fruit set—okay to mix species. Z3 except where noted. **ME Grown**. (1-3')

***S. caerulea* Blue Elderberry** 15-25' x 3-10' For the elderberry collectors among us, a western cousin of the common elderberry. Waxy bloom on fruit gives it the appearance of a tiny blueberry. Good for jam, pie, jelly and wine. Historically used by native people for food and medicine. Prefers moist to moderately dry soils. Tolerates drier locations than *S. canadensis*. Native to western North America. Z4/5.

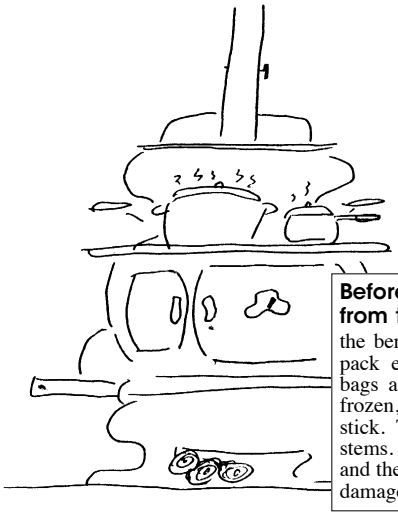
524A Blue Elderberry, $18.00

***S. canadensis* 'Adams No. 1'** NY State Ag Experiment Station intro, 1926. Selected in 1915 from the wild by William Adams in Union Springs, NY, and sent to Geneva where it was introduced 11 years later. Large berries and fruit clusters make for easy and fast picking. If you're heading to a potluck and need to make a pie in a pinch, Adams is the shrub you want. Excellent for preserving and not bad fresh eating. Very large vigorous strong productive bush. Typically 7–8' tall.

525A Adams No. 1 Elderberry, $18.00

***S. c.* 'Goodbarn'** Chance seedling. Elwyn Meader intro, Rochester, NH. Professor Meader named this Goodbarn because it was the good elderberry growing under the eaves of his barn in New Hampshire. Another of the many fine plants that Elwyn's son John has brought to our attention over the years. Thanks, John! Goodbarn is thought to be a polyploid form with unusual hardiness, vigor and apparent self-fertility. It blooms heavily and produces large crops annually. Lower grower, maybe to 5'.

526A Goodbarn Elderberry, $18.00



ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

Before cooking, remove elderberries from their stems. This can be done while the berries are fresh or frozen. We pick and pack entire panicles of berries into plastic bags and put the bags in the freezer. Once frozen, remove and whack the bag with a stick. The berries will easily fall from the stems. Snip a hole in the corner of the bag and the berries will roll out. Freezing will not damage the fruit.

***S. c.* 'Mattawamkeag'** Fedco intro, 2014. Selected and propagated by Sue Szwed and Mitch Lansky of Wytopitlock, ME. Sourced from a wide swath of plants growing between Wytopitlock and Bancroft in Aroostook County near the Mattawamkeag River. Cuttings were taken from plants that are robust with consistently high fruit yields. According to Sue, they don't appear to suffer from much winterkill, and she has found them to fruit dependably year after year. We agree! Our 2013 plantings had no dieback.

527A Mattawamkeag Elderberry, $18.00

***S. c.* 'York'** (Ezyoff x Adams No. 2) NY Ag Exp Station, 1964. An old reliable, considered by some to be the largest-fruited and heaviest-bearing cultivar. In most of our Maine trials, this shrub is more compact than Adams, topping out at 4–5', but we've seen a 10' specimen growing on a compost pile. Persistent and will bear well for many years alongside other varieties. Heavy clusters of mildly tart large berries that ripen after Adams are easy to pick and excellent for jam, jelly, wine and pie. Bright green foliage on a rounded shrub.

528A York Elderberry, $18.00

***S. c.* Elderberry Seedlings** Each one is grown from cold-hardy seed and will be a totally unique plant. Some of our best plants grew from batches of such seedlings. Jen has one from Michigan that outgrew all of her other elders and provided huge amounts of berries in its second year. It's fun to mix it up and see what you get.

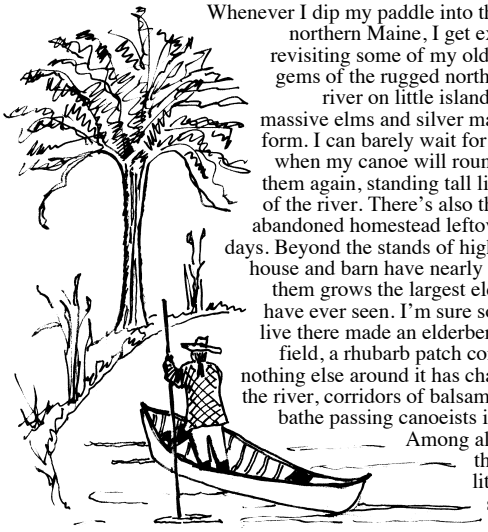
529A Elderberry Seedlings, $18.00

529B Elderberry Seedlings, bundle of 5, $75.00

***S. nigra* 'Samdal'** Kaack intro, Aarslev, Denmark, 1989. Also called **Black-berried Elder**. *Nigra* is the official medicinal species used in European pharmaceuticals. The berries are extremely high in immune-boosting anthocyanins. Bred for heavy fruit clusters and excellent juicing quality. You can use them in all of the same wonderful ways you would use the *canadensis* species. Leaves are broader and darker green than other elderberries and the plant gives off a musky scent when you brush past it. Upright habit, extremely vigorous. Native to Europe. Ours seem to be just as hardy as the American elders growing in Zone 4. Z4/5.

530A Samdal Elderberry, $18.00

Plant Exploring on the Allagash River



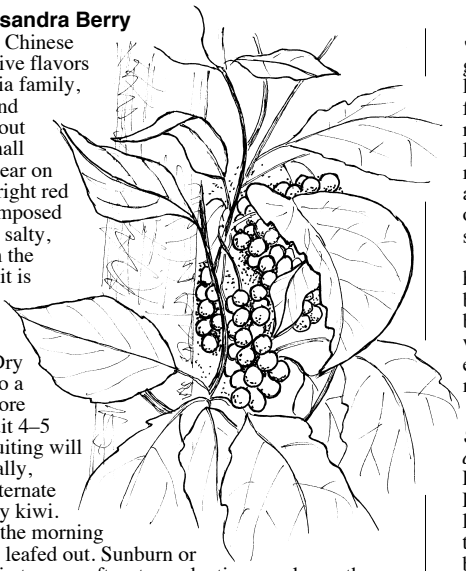
Whenever I dip my paddle into the Allagash River of northern Maine, I get excited to think about revisiting some of my old plant friends, hardy gems of the rugged north. Jutting out into the river on little islands and peninsulas are massive elms and silver maples in full graceful form. I can barely wait for that point in the trip when my canoe will round the bend and I see them again, standing tall like kings and queens of the river. There's also the old Moir farm, an abandoned homestead leftover from the logging days. Beyond the stands of highbush cranberry, the house and barn have nearly collapsed but beside them grows the largest elderberry shrub that I have ever seen. I'm sure someone who used to live there made an elderberry pie or two. In the field, a rhubarb patch continues to grow as if nothing else around it has changed. Farther down the river, corridors of balsam firs cool the air and bathe passing canoeists in their sweet aroma. Among all the treasures along the river are the many little flowering plants, some growing in the water, some on the gravelly banks. I don't know many of their names and I don't even care. They are lovely reminders of why I keep returning.

–Jen Ries

Elderberries are best grown in rich soil with a pH of 5.5–7.5 but are adaptable to a variety of soil types. They love compost! Add compost to the hole at the time of planting and every spring after that. They prefer moist soil but will tolerate poor drainage and temporary flooding. On the St. Croix River, we've harvested elderberries from the canoe! Plant in full sun. Susceptible to borers when weeds are allowed to crowd the base. Control weeds by mulching with a thick layer of hay, leaves or woodchips. Aggressive weeding around elders will disturb their shallow roots and risk injury to the plant.

Pruning: *S. canadensis*: in spring, while plant is still dormant, prune away any weak, broken or dead canes. New canes will emerge. Fruit is produced on both new and old wood but best sets are on one- and two-year canes. Periodically cut out the oldest wood. Alternately, some people prefer to cut elders back to the ground each year and treat them as perennials. The latter plants will produce fewer but larger fruit clusters. *S. caerulea*: Do nothing, or remove dead canes as needed. *S. nigra*: Fruits on second-year wood.

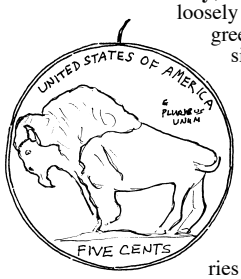
Schisandra chinensis **Schisandra Berry**



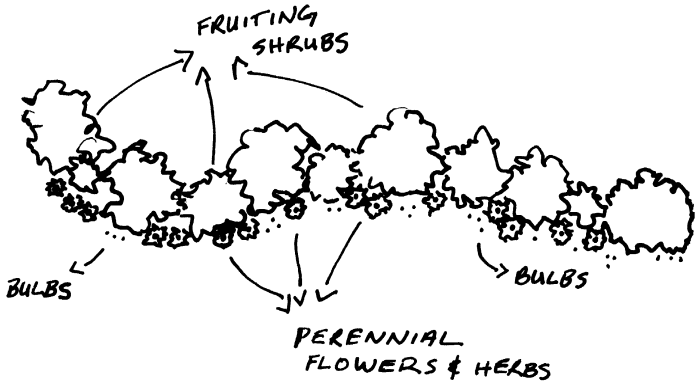
20' or taller. Called *wu wei zi* in Chinese medicine, which translates as 'five flavors fruit.' A member of the magnolia family, highly ornamental vines twist and wrap themselves around just about anything you put them near. Small delicate orchid-like flowers appear on young shoots in early spring. Bright red clusters of medicinal berries composed of all five flavors—sweet, sour, salty, bitter and pungent—droop from the elegant vines in September. Fruit is considered adaptogenic, a term given to herbs used to build the immune system and rejuvenate the whole body against stress. Dry berries for tea or make them into a tincture, so delicious it tastes more like cordial. Generally bears fruit 4–5 years after planting. Optimal fruiting will occur on vines trained horizontally, similar to grapes. Vines have alternate leaves resembling those of hardy kiwi. Prefers dappled shade but likes the morning sun. Difficult to transplant once leafed out. Sunburn or fading on leaves is typical first year after transplanting so keep them well-watered until established. Schisandra is typically dioecious—**having multiple plants is essential for fruit.** These plants were divided off a large bed of combined male and female plants all growing together happily. Plant in well-drained fertile sandy loam with lots of compost and support for climbing. Native to China. Z4. *Limited supply*. **ME Grown.** (well-rooted transplants)

531A Schisandra Berry, $25.00

Sherpherdia canadensis **Buffalo Berry** 6-8' x same. Also called **Russet Buffaloberry**, **Soopolallie**, **Soapberry** or **Foamberry**. Small loosely branched rounded nitrogen-fixing shrub with grey-green elliptical 1-2" long leaves that have silver undersides. This is the thornless species. Bitter-tasting red berries are loaded with antioxidants and good for making jam, jelly or wine, also popular with the birds and bears. Native Americans used this plant as medicine for a multitude of disorders and to make a treat called Indian Ice Cream (*Native American Ethnobotany* by Daniel E. Moerman), a foamy dessert made by crushing and whipping the berries in a bit of water. The saponins in the fruit create the froth. Before sugar came along, juneberries were added as a sweetener. Tolerates salt, drought, cold, and even the poorest soils but likes water until it is established. Considered a good substitute for the invasive autumn olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*). Dioecious, so **male and female plants are needed to produce fruit.** These are unsexed seedlings. Native to western North America. Z2. **ME Grown.** (1-3')



532A Buffalo Berry, $14.25



Hedgerows Provide:

- forage for birds, bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, moths, beneficial insects and humans
- protection for nesting birds and migratory animals
- erosion control and water conservation
- privacy screens, windbreaks, mazes or secret gardens
- texture, aroma, character and color in a cultivated landscape
- renewable material for kindling, crafts, bouquets and wood chips

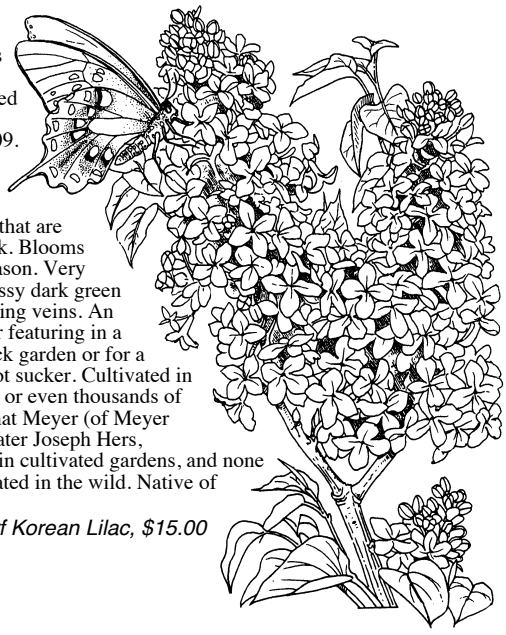
Syringa **Lilacs** have been a fixture in the New England landscape for generations. More often than not, when we find old apples trees, the ancient lilacs are not far away. The large rambling suckering shrubs continue to flourish each spring long after the buildings have disappeared and all that remains of homesteads are the remnants of stone foundations. Why were the lilacs always planted just outside the kitchen door? On cold winter mornings, husband or wife would clean out the wood stove and sprinkle ashes on the icy path to the backhouse. Or maybe the path to the wood shed or the clothesline. Over the years, the earth outside the kitchen door became saturated with lime. Lilacs love alkaline soil.

In the landscape, lilacs are excellent alone or in hedges. Deep green glossy heart-shaped foliage looks good from spring through fall. Intensely fragrant blooms in May over a period of several weeks. Hundreds of varieties have been developed over the ages. Flowers range from singles to doubles, pure white to the deepest purple, not to mention pinks and reds and lavenders of every persuasion. Ornamental, edible (frittered flowers à la elderberry), medicinal and a great Mother's Day gift. (1-3')

S. **x** ***hyacinthiflora*** **'Mount Baker'** 8x10' (*S. vulgaris* x *S. oblata dilatata*) Dr. Frank L. Skinner intro, Dropmore, Manitoba, Canada, 1961. Prolific single heavily fragrant lovely showy white blooms. One of Roger Luce's favorites. Roger was one of Maine's great 20th c. plant people. His lilac collection near Bangor was unsurpassed for its time. As we observed this lilac in bloom, he simply said to me, "Lovely white." Large shrub blooms about 2 weeks before most other lilacs. Purplish fall foliage. Extremely hardy. Z2/3.

536A Mount Baker Lilac, $15.00

S. meyeri **'Palabin' Dwarf Korean**



3-4' x 3-6'. Also called *shu ting hsien*, which means 'fragrant-tube tree' in Chinese. Collected by Frank Meyer, Fengtai, China, 1909. Dwarf lilac with reddish-purple buds and fragrant pale violet flowers that are actually almost pink. Blooms profusely in midseason. Very attractive small glossy dark green leaves with interesting veins. An excellent choice for featuring in a smaller space, a rock garden or for a low hedge. Does not sucker. Cultivated in China for hundreds or even thousands of years. The plants that Meyer (of Meyer lemon fame), and later Joseph Hers, "discovered" were in cultivated gardens, and none have ever been located in the wild. Native of China. Z3.

538A Dwarf Korean Lilac, $15.00

Lilacs are adaptable, easy to grow, nearly indestructible and practically maintenance-free. Plant them in a well-drained location in moderately rich soil. Sandy gravelly loam is perfect. They prefer at least 6 hours of sunlight each day. We suggest planting them with a shovelful of wood ash or lime, then add another shovelful of either one every three years. A yearly mulch of manure or compost will encourage spectacular annual blooming. Pink, lavender and blue lilacs color up best in soil with a neutral pH.

How to prune lilacs

Prune right after flowering. Late-season pruning removes next year's buds. As the plant matures, prune off a quarter of the new suckers and the oldest growth (a few main stems each year). Some growers prefer to keep the plant low and bushy. Do so by "topping" it off every year: prune any upright branch back to a junction with a lower branch. Others prefer a tall tree-like form. Our friends Philippe and Danielle have let theirs soar to 8' or more, removing the lower branches and creating a magical walkway in the process. Lilacs are more than willing to cater to your own personal vision. Have fun! No need to cut off spent flowers except for appearance.

Why isn't my lilac blooming?

Too shady: lilacs need sun to form blossoms. Over-pruned: pruned too late, removed buds. Also, some plants respond to excessive pruning by putting their energy into vegetative growth instead of flowering. Too wet: lilacs like well-drained soil. Over-fertilized: lilacs will bloom well without assistance. Too much fertility can lead more vegetative growth and inhibit bud formation.

***S. v. 'Charles* Joly'** 10x10' Victor Lemoine et Fils intro, Nancy, France, 1896. Purple buds and highly fragrant dark reddish-magenta double flowers on somewhat narrow 4–6" moderately loose panicles. My notes call it a bright rosy-pink-purple. One of the best of all the reds. Lighter and redder than most of the standard varieties. Narrow upright habit with some suckering. Z3.

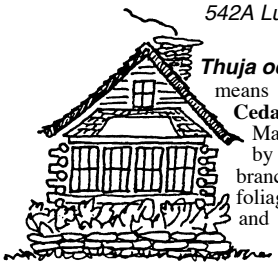
540A Charles Joly Lilac, $15.00

***S. vulgaris* Common Purple** 12-15' x same. A mass of medium-light purple blooms every year. A magnificent New England sight for nearly 400 years. When a nursery friend looked out John's living room window and thought he had some fancy new cultivar, he chuckled, "Nope, just the good old common purple." Never disappoints. Suckers freely, the best lilac for a spreading hedge. Z2.

541A Common Purple Lilac, $15.00

***S. v. 'Ludwig* Spaeth'** 10-12' x same. ('Andenken an Ludwig Späth') Späth Nursery, Berlin, 1883. Ludwig Spaeth's deep rich purple flowers are always a knockout. Dark, yes, but never so dark that the color becomes flat and the highlights lost. This is a magnificent purple. Although we hesitate to use the word red, there is enough red in the purple to give it a regal look. Single deep purple flowers on large upright spires. Upright growth habit. Will sucker over time. One of the very best of the very best. Still a must for every yard! Z3.

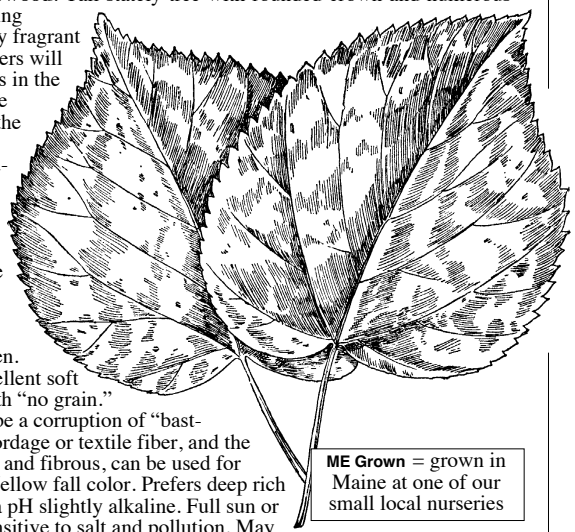
542A Ludwig Spaeth Lilac, $15.00



***Thuja occidentalis* Arborvitae** 20-60' *Arborvitae* means 'tree of life.' Also called **Eastern White Cedar**. Common throughout the entire state of Maine although some stands have been depleted by overcutting. Narrow and tall with twiggy branches, soft fibrous orange-brown bark, and flat foliage unlike that of any other conifer. Foliage and bark tea high in vitamin C. Foliage tea helpful in infections, twig decoction makes an anti-viral anti-fungal skin wash. Valuable light fragrant wood, the standard for fence posts and log cabins in Maine. Slow growing, lives up to 400 years. Thrives in rich moist marshy neutral-to-alkaline soils. Good for screens and hedges. A favorite browse of deer. Pruning limbs and leaving them on the ground during a harsh winter helps sustain these animals and is a long-practiced tradition amongst natives caretaking the forests of Maine. Grown in Maine. Z2. (1-3')

551A Arborvitae, bundle of 5, $19.00

***Tilia americana* American Linden** 60-80' x same. Also known as **Basswood** and **Butterwood**. Tall stately tree with rounded crown and numerous low-hung spreading branches. Sweetly fragrant yellow June flowers will attract all the bees in the neighborhood, are reputed to make the best honey, and also make a popular after-dinner tea and stomach remedy. Sprinkle them on your salad for a festive treat. The young half-size foliage makes a high-quality salad green. Butterwood: excellent soft carving wood with "no grain." Basswood: may be a corruption of "bast-wood." Bast is cordage or textile fiber, and the inner bark, tough and fibrous, can be used for ropes and nets. Yellow fall color. Prefers deep rich moist soils with a pH slightly alkaline. Full sun or partial shade. Sensitive to salt and pollution. May live for 900 years. Native from New Brunswick to VA. Z3. **ME Grown**. (2-4')



552A American Linden, $16.50

ME Grown = grown in Maine at one of our small local nurseries

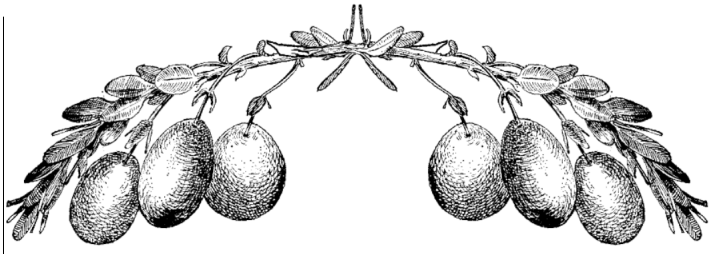
***Ulmus americana* 'Princeton' American Elm** 60x70' Princeton Nursery intro, 1922. Large fast-growing graceful native once lined virtually every street in New England but declined dramatically due to Dutch elm disease. Fortunately, in recent years several disease-resistant cultivars have been introduced. This one has been in the trade for almost a century, chosen for its high resistance to the disease. Good resistance to elm leaf beetles, too. At maturity the trunk can be 4' (even up to 8'!) in diameter with an immense vase-shaped canopy. Long loose branches blow and sway in a hazy breeze on hot summer days. One of the most wonderful shade trees for northern climates. We're infatuated with them. If you find yourself in Castine, ME, visit the huge old elms lining every street; you'll feel like you stepped back in time. Soil adaptable, prefers moist areas along rivers and streams but also grows well in drier places. Salt and drought tolerant. Plant more elms! Z4. (3-6')

553A Princeton American Elm, $29.00

***Vaccinium macrocarpon* 'Stevens' American Cranberry**

This is the cranberry of holiday sauces, bread and jelly. Dense low lustrous evergreen ground cover, reddish purple in fall and loaded with large red berries. Once established, makes a beautiful and edible "lawn." Handpick or rake like blueberries before hard frost. Use fresh, freeze or store in a cool basement or root cellar for months. Bitter and alkalizing effects make it one of the most common remedies for bladder infections. An excellent source of vitamin C. Annually flooded for frost protection and harvesting convenience in commercial operations, but not necessary in home plots. Self-fertile. Native to northeastern U.S. and Canada. Comes in a bushy 6" clump which can be carefully divided or planted as a whole for division in future years. Z2. **ME Grown**. (well-rooted transplants)

554A Stevens American Cranberry, $20.00



American Cranberries are shallow-rooted and require light acid soil (pH 4.0–5.5), preferably cool, moist and high in organic matter, similar to soil in which blueberries grow well. Will grow in dry locations. Plant them in spring once the ground can be worked in a bed or in a naturalized setting.

We no longer recommend mixing in sulfur to acidify the soil. Sulfur is slow-acting and can be added to soil surface in subsequent years if necessary. Mixing it into the soil can damage tender young roots.

Instructions for a 5x5′ bed (10 plants or divisions):

For acidic "blueberry" soils: If you're fortunate to have a site where blueberries grow naturally, clear a spot of vegetation, cultivate the soil, add some peat and sand if you like, and you're ready to plant.

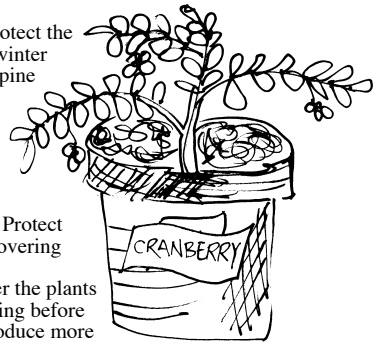
Sandy soils: Remove soil 10" deep and mix soil with 2 bales of damp peat moss. Replace mixture in bed and cover with 2" of sand.

Clay or silty soils: Remove soil 10" deep and place it around the edge of the bed as a berm. Replace the soil with a 50-50 mix of soil and peat (about 2 bales of peat). Cover with an additional 2" of sand. Plant cranberries 12" apart, so the roots are in the peat and the sand is covering the lower portion of the stems.

Remove all weeds as needed. Water the plants weekly so that the peat is moist but not saturated. Add nitrogen at a rate of 1/3–1 lb (or 20–50 lbs of manure) per 100 sq feet each year. No pesticides should be necessary.

Handpick before first hard frost when berries are red.

In late fall, cover the bed to protect the plants from the drying effect of winter winds. Use a mulch of leaves or pine needles; or cover with polyester row cover and then clear plastic; or cover with row cover and then plenty of leaves. You may want to bait for mice under row cover or plastic.



Remove mulch in early April. Protect flower buds from 28° frosts by covering with plastic during frosty nights.

Every two years partially cover the plants with a 1/2–1" layer of sand in spring before growth begins. This will help produce more berries and keep weeds down.

Vaccinium vitis-idaea **Lingonberry** Also called **Foxberry**, **Cowberry**, **Mountain Cranberry**. Vigorous shallow-rooted spreading groundcover is related to blueberries and cranberries. Bright red glossy nutritious fruits are slightly smaller than lowbush blueberries. Tart until dead ripe, then has excellent flavor, richer and less astringent than cranberries. Can be eaten fresh but primarily used in sauces, jams, syrups, fruit leathers, juices and wines. Stores up to 2 months in the fridge. Small shiny dark green foliage is quite lovely. Adorable tiny bell-shaped white flowers in spring attract a plethora of pollinators. Extremely popular in Scandinavia and now catching on in the U.S. If you've got good soil for blueberries, try these. Ripens in late summer but is best after a frost. Harvest by hand or with a blueberry rake. Will produce 1–2 lbs per plant depending on the variety and can produce for up to 20 years. Prefers full sun and poor sandy acid (pH 4.5–5) soils. Plant 12–18" apart in rows 3–4' apart. To ensure good fruit production, plant more than one variety. Native to the colder northern hemisphere. Incredibly tough and very hardy. Finally, we have a local supply of bushy two-year transplants grown in Newport, ME, by Carol Armatis of 3B Apiary. Z2. **ME Grown.** (4" wide multi-stemmed transplants)

V. v.-i. **'Erntesegen'** 12-15" Originated in Germany. High-yielding upright plant produces very large berries. Slightly acid sweet fruit.

L555A Erntesegen Lingonberry, $15.00

V. v.-i. **'Red Pearl'** 12-18" Elden Stang intro, Holland, 1983. Very adaptable fast-growing upright high-yielding plant produces large berries. Standard in commercial production as an excellent pollinator.

L556A Red Pearl Lingonberry, $15.00

V. v.-i. **'Red Sunset'** 8-15" Hartmann's Plant Company intro. Medium-to-large firm flavorful berries. Considered one of the most vigorous cultivars.

L557A Red Sunset Lingonberry, $15.00

V. v.-i. **'Regal'** 8-15" WI-108, Univ of Wisconsin intro, Madison, WI, 1994. From open-pollinated seed collected in southwest Finland. Highly ornamental upright plant produces firm small-to-medium berries with good flavor. Vigorous and easily transplanted.

L558A Regal Lingonberry, $15.00

V. v.-i. **'Sussi'** 4-8" tall and spreading. Sometimes spelled 'Susi.' Patented by the Swedish Agricultural Department, 1985. Vigorous bush with moderate yields of medium berries that fruit on branch tips. Great pollinator for other varieties.

L559A Sussi Lingonberry, $15.00

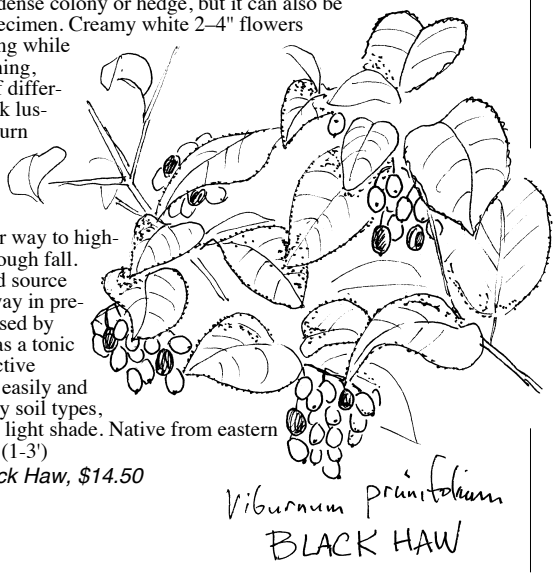
Lingonberry Collection Get your patch going and boost pollination with this collection of 5 plants, one of each variety we're offering. Great deal!

L560A Lingonberry Collection, bundle of 5, $65.00

Viburnum lentago **Nannyberry** 15-20' x 10-12' Also called **Sheepberry** or **Sweet Viburnum**. Large open vase-shaped suckering shrub with edible oval berries that turn from green to yellow to red to blue-black raisins that persist in winter and are popular with the birds. Large flat-topped clusters of fragrant creamy white flowers in spring. Shiny foliage, purplish red in fall. Medicinal bark and leaves. Native Americans ate the dried fruit as trail food for hunting trips but did not gather it in large quantities. Recommended for naturalizing, bird and wildlife habitat, screens and borders. Prefers moist well-drained average soils but adaptable to poor, compacted or dry soils. Sun or shade. Self-fertile, but plant two or more for better pollination and fruit production. Native to eastern U.S. and Canada. Z2. **ME Grown.** (1-3')

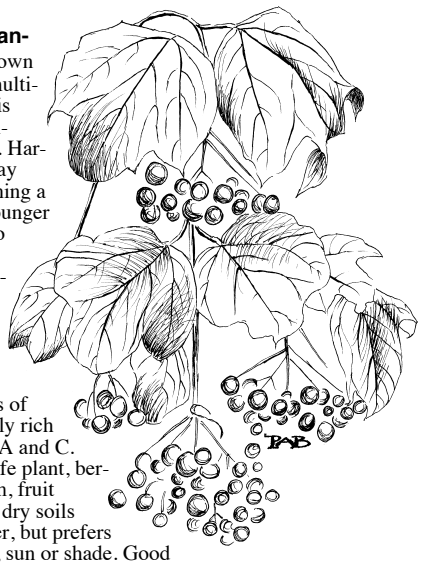
562A Nannyberry, $14.50

V. prunifolium **Black Haw** 12-15' x 8-12'. Rounded arching shrub stiffly branched, reminiscent of a wild hawthorn or crabapple. Suckering nature allows it to form a dense colony or hedge, but it can also be pruned as a nice specimen. Creamy white 2–4" flowers bloom in early spring while leaves are still opening, attracting dozens of different pollinators. Dark lustrous green leaves turn to purplish-bronze in fall. Dark bluish-black 1/2" fruits form hanging clusters, in a similar way to highbush cranberry, through fall. Long used as a food source eaten raw or put away in preserves. Root bark used by Native Americans as a tonic for female reproductive health. Transplants easily and is adaptable to many soil types, moist to dry, sun to light shade. Native from eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1-3')



563A Black Haw, $14.50

V. trilobum **Highbush Cranberry** 8-12' x same. Also known as **Crampbark**. Medicinal multi-stemmed native shrub. Bark is one of the most effective anti-spasmodic native medicinals. Harvest bark in April or early May before leaves emerge by running a sharp knife down the long younger stems. Make tea or tincture to relieve cramping and muscle tension of various sorts. Clusters of 4" flat white flowers in May attract beneficial insects. Quite lovely in bloom. Pendulous bunches of red berries ripen mid-October, popular with dozens of bird species. Fruit is extremely rich in antioxidants and vitamins A and C. Although considered a wildlife plant, berries can be used for juice, jam, fruit leather and syrups. Tolerates dry soils that are high in organic matter, but prefers rich moist well-drained soils, sun or shade. Good for screens and hedges. Soil pH 6–7. Susceptible to viburnum leaf beetle; check with your local extension office or nursery to determine if this could be a problem. Not a bog cranberry. Native to northeast U.S. and Canada. Self-pollinating. Z2. (1-3')



V. t. **'Wentworth'** Selected in the early 1900s for heavy fruit set. Named after O.E. Wentworth of Lancaster, NH, where the original shrub was found. Fruit ripens to vibrant scarlet red, slightly earlier than other *trilobums*. Leaves turn deep red in the fall, giving it a lustrous autumn display.

564A Wentworth Highbush Cranberry, $15.50

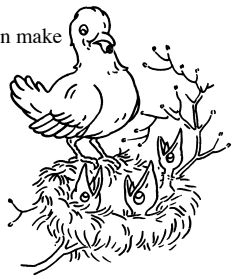
V. t. **Seedlings** Add to the biological diversity of your garden. No two seedlings are exactly alike. Not only is it fun and exciting to see what you get, it allows nature the opportunity to develop resistance and durability to insects and disease. **ME Grown.**

565A Highbush Cranberry Seedlings, $15.50
565B Highbush Cranberry Seedlings, bundle of 5, $67.50

Weigela florida **'Minuet' Weigela** 2-3' x 3-4' ('Foliis Purpureis' x 'Dropmore Pink') Ottawa Research Stn, Ontario, 1981. A sea of fragrant rose-pink yellow-throated flowers cover the plant once in early summer and again later in the season. Attractive to hummingbirds and bees. Dwarf compact somewhat upright spreading plant. Each long slender leaf has a reddish-purple tip fading into deep green with a yellow midrib. The older leaves are lighter green, edged in purple. So beautiful out of bloom that it's hard to believe it will be more beautiful in bloom—but it is. Excellent as a specimen or low hedge. To shape, prune immediately after flowering. Prefers well-drained soils but is adaptable and will tolerate clay. Full sun for best blooms. Cold hardy, low maintenance, pest and disease free. Bred by Felicitas Svejda, who introduced many of the cold-hardy roses we've offered over the years. She named her weigelas after dances. Z3/4. (1-3')

566A Minuet Weigela, $13.50

Move Over, Birds!



Merely thinking of eating a highbush cranberry can make your mouth pucker up. Ready yourself with a few good recipes so that once these little jewels ripen, you can profit from their rich nutrients and antioxidants, not to mention their gorgeous bright red color. Combine with apples, rhubarb and raspberries. Make pie, wine, spritzers, jelly, fruit butters and even spiced ketchup. On fall river trips in northern Maine, when we've run out of cookies and need some dessert, we pick the berries and cook them up over the open fire, pits and all. Add enough maple syrup to sweeten and serve over biscuits. Just spit out the pits. (It's a little sloppy but who cares—you're camping!) We've done this with hawthorn berries, too. Makes a fine treat for a chilly October evening.

Back at home, try **Highbush Cranberry Jam**. Pick a bunch of berries—at least a gallon to make it worth your time—place in a saucepan, crush, boil, add only enough water to keep the pulp from burning, and simmer for about 10 minutes. Process in a food mill to remove the pits. Add enough sweetener to suit your taste, bring to boil, skim off any foam, and can according to your preferred method. Or, skip the canning process and simply freeze in containers. This makes a nice thick sauce with pulp that you can spread on toast or use as a dressing with meat dishes. For jelly, we use the cranberry jelly recipe in the package of Pomona Pectin. After crushing and boiling, place the contents in a mesh bag or cheesecloth and hang to let the juice drain out (takes a full day). Don't squeeze the bag or it will "muddy" the beautiful clear red liquid. Follow package instructions for amount of pectin and sugar. Can or freeze. In either case, you may find the smell of the cooking berries a bit repulsive (they don't call it smelly jelly for nothing!) We think it's worth enduring for the tasty finished product.

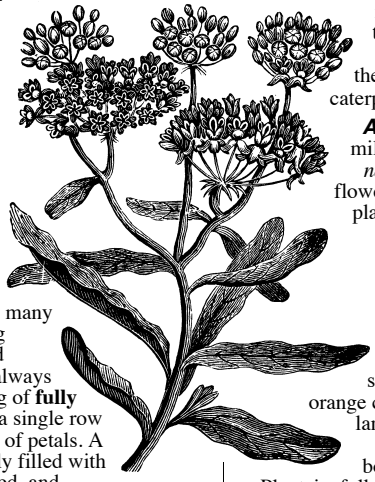
Herbaceous Perennial Plants

Most of the perennial plants we offer are hardy at least into Zone 4 unless otherwise noted. USDA hardiness zone (chart on page 71) follows each description. The list is alphabetized by botanical name in italics, followed by common name.

Achillea millefolium **'Moonshine' Yarrow** Bright canary-yellow flat-topped flower heads bloom early June through September. Long-lasting color. Yarrow tolerates most conditions, is untroubled by pests and performs well during heat and drought. Silvery-grey foliage is finely cut and feathery with a subtle spicy scent. Excellent for fresh and dried arrangements. Prompt removal of faded flower heads guarantees a long season of blooms. 18–24" tall. Plant crowns 12–24" apart in full sun to partial shade. See page 67 for medicinal white yarrow. Z3.

L601A*: 1 for $6.00*
L601B*: 3 for $15.75*
L601C*: 6 for $28.00*

Aconitum carmichaelii **'Arendsii' Monkshood** or **Friar's Cap** Produces a mass of late summer blooms with dense showy spikes of rich azure-blue helmet-shaped flowers above elegant palmate foliage. Grand delphinium-style blooms rarely need staking. 'Arendsii' produces slightly larger flowers and has a more compact habit than the common monkshood. For cutflowers, cut when 1/3 to 1/2 the spike is in bloom. I love watching bumblebees climb under the hood and completely disappear into the flowers then clamber out again covered with pollen. Prefers partial shade. Plant 15–20" apart in moist soil. 36–40" tall. Z3.
Caution: all parts of the plant are poisonous; wash hands after handling.



L602A*: 1 for $4.25*
L602B*: 3 for $10.00*
L602C*: 6 for $18.00*

Alcea rosea **Hollyhock** Self-sowing staple of old-fashioned gardens, hollyhocks produce tall spires covered with flowers for extended bloom through July and August. Helena Rutherford Ely says in her 1903 book *A Woman's Hardy Garden*, "No one can have too many hollyhocks. Plant them at the back of the border, among shrubbery, along fences, and in good clumps in any odd corner, or around buildings; they are never amiss, and always beautiful." Our offering this year illustrates the meaning of **fully double** in garden-talk. While **single** flowers have, yes, a single row of petals around their centers, **doubles** have *many* rows of petals. A fully double flower is the most extravagant, being totally filled with petals. Officially perennial, hollyhocks can be short-lived, and unless otherwise noted, are best cultivated as biennials, which readily self-sow once established in favorable conditions. Wind protection or staking is essential. 5–6' tall. Z3.

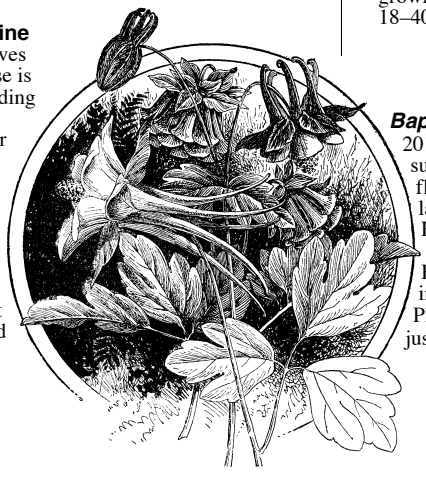
A. r. **'Mars Magic'** Bring a vintage look back to your homestead with this classic single bright red hollyhock. Produces flowers in the first growing season! This cultivar from the Spotlight Series is truly perennial, not biennial like most Alceas on the market. For those of you who missed out last season, we brought back this popular cultivar. *Supplies may be limited. Order early!*

L603A*: 1 for $5.00*
L603B*: 3 for $13.00*
L603C*: 6 for $23.00*

A. r. **'Summer Carnival Mix'** Large fully double spherical flowers in mixed colors bloom the first year.

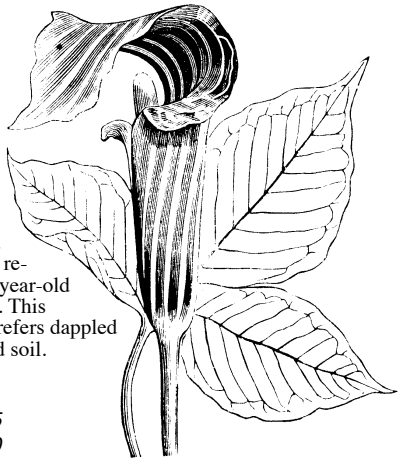
L604A*: 1 for $5.00*
L604B*: 3 for $13.00*
L604C*: 6 for $23.00*

Aquilegia **'McKana Giants' Columbine** Delightful little stacks of round-lobed leaves emerge in early spring when not much else is green. Soon after, magical jewel-like nodding blossoms dance above the foliage. The elegant slender spurs are filled with nectar irresistible to pollinating hummingbirds. 'McKana Giants' is an old British hybrid of uncertain parentage that combines the delights of the wild columbine habit with giant flowers sporting long spurs and a bright bold assortment of colors, including bicolors. Excellent for cutting. Blooms from late May to early June. Best planted en masse, 12–18" apart in dappled shade to guarantee the best color. Grows 24–30" tall. Z3.



L605A*: 1 for $4.25*
L605B*: 3 for $9.00*
L605C*: 6 for $16.00*

Arisaema triphyllum **Jack-in-the-Pulpit** In midspring one or two compound leaves appear close to the ground, each with three leaflets framing an upright stem topped by a striped tannish-purple 3" long cuplike spathe (the pulpit) that contains and arches over the erect greenish-yellow spadix (Jack). It's a great pleasure, one I still remember, for the two- or three-year-old set to lift the flap and see Jack. This magical Northeastern native prefers dappled shade and moist rich woodland soil. Nursery propagated. Z3.



L606A*: 1 for $6.00*
L606B*: 3 for $15.75*
L606C*: 6 for $28.00*

Asclepias Named for Asklepios, the Greek god of healing. Commonly known as **Pleurisy Root**, dried roots from the genus were traditionally used in small doses as an expectorant, anti-inflammatory and general tonic. Attracts all manner of bee and butterfly. Watch one of the miracles of summer unfold before your eyes as monarchs lay their eggs on the leaves—a nutritious food source for the resulting caterpillars. Z3. **ME Grown.**

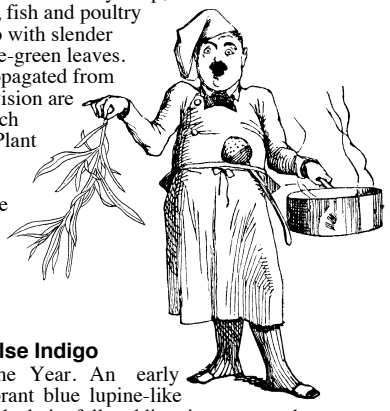
A. incarnata **Swamp Red Milkweed** This is not the common milkweed so familiar to all of us in the Northeast. *Asclepias incarnata* forms unique flattened clusters of upturned red-rose colored flowers. Willow-like leaves are 4–5" long. Grows naturally in floodplains and wet meadows. Prefers moist soil. Clump-forming, great for naturalizing. 5' tall. This year's stock is MOFGA-certified organic, grown at Ripley Farm in Dover-Foxcroft. **ME Grown.**

L607A*: 1 for $6.50*
L607B*: 3 for $16.50*
L607C*: 6 for $29.00*

A. tuberosa **Butterfly Weed** Undeniably the most brilliant summer wildflower in North America, featuring vivid tangerine-orange clusters of flowers atop slender fuzzy stems, covered with green lance-shaped leaves. Spent flowerheads transform into prominent spindle-shaped seed pods that make a unique addition to mixed bouquets. The fleshy taproot will not tolerate clay or low ground. Plant in full sun, 18–24" apart in well-drained fertile soil. 24" tall. This year's stock is MOFGA-certified organic, grown at Ripley Farm. **ME Grown.**

L608A*: 1 for $6.50*
L608B*: 3 for $16.50*
L608C*: 6 for $29.00*

Artemisia dracunculus **'Tarragon' True French Tarragon** Culinary tarragon lends herbal pizzazz to any soup, salad or sandwich. Traditionally added to vinegars, fish and poultry dishes. Looks like a small shrub with slender branched stems and greyish blue-green leaves. Culinary tarragon cannot be propagated from seed—stem cutting and root division are the only way to guarantee the rich flavor of true French tarragon. Plant in full sun 18–20" apart in light fertile *well-drained* soil. Winter mulch is recommended for those growing in Zone 4 or colder. 18–40" tall. Z4.



L609A*: 1 for $5.75*
L609B*: 3 for $15.75*
L609C*: 6 for $28.00*

Baptisia australis **Blue False Indigo** 2010 Perennial Plant of the Year. An early summer stand-out with vibrant blue lupine-like flowers. Seed pods turn black in fall, adding interest to the autumn landscape and providing a unique element to dried floral arrangements. Has a bushy habit and shrub-like structure once mature. Will develop an extensive root system, good for holding slopes to prevent erosion. Baptisia is a member of the pea family, and you'll notice a resemblance in its foliage and flowers, as well as its fondness for cooler weather. Plant 3' apart in full sun and well-drained acid soil. Grows 3–4' tall and just as wide. Z3.

L610A*: 1 for $5.75*
L610B*: 3 for $15.75*
L610C*: 6 for $28.00*

***Centranthus ruber* 'Coccineus' Red Valerian** Historically known as **Jupiter's Beard** and passionately planted throughout the mid-Atlantic states during the first half of the 19th century. Red valerian generates clusters of tiny star-shaped carmine-rose flowers on erect stems above bushy masses of glossy grey-green lance-shaped foliage. Clump-forming plant produces fragrant showy blooms from spring till frost, performing best in the early part of the season. Deadhead to encourage steady blooms or let it go to seed to start a new generation. Good for the naturalized border, cottage or cutting garden. Useful planted on dry banks to combat soil erosion. Strictly ornamental, *Centranthus ruber* does not share the same medicinal qualities as *Valeriana officinalis,* offered on page 68. Plant in full sun or part shade, in dry limey soil. 24–36" tall. Z4.

***L611A**: 1 for $5.75*
***L611B**: 3 for $15.75*
***L611C**: 6 for $28.00*

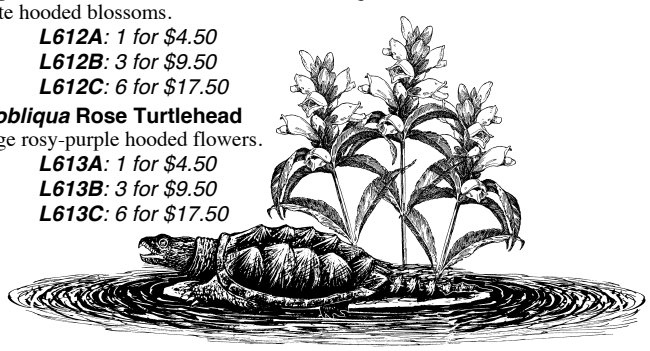
***Chelone* Turtlehead** *Chelone* is Greek for 'tortoise,' hence its common name Turtlehead. Chelone bears upright stems with boldly veined shiny green leaves topped by elegant spikes of hooded flowers that are shaped very much like a turtle's head. Try planting en masse at the mouth of a woodland path. Deer avoid the bitter foliage. Perfect in moist woods or at the water's edge—these pleasing late-season flowers will flourish in a wide range of moist soils, from clay to sandy, as long as they're not waterlogged. Plant about 12" apart in dappled sunlight. Grows 2–3' tall and just as wide. Z4.

***C. glabra* 'Alba' White Turtlehead** Unique native wildflower features white hooded blossoms.

***L612A**: 1 for $4.50*
***L612B**: 3 for $9.50*
***L612C**: 6 for $17.50*

***C. obliqua* Rose Turtlehead**
Large rosy-purple hooded flowers.

***L613A**: 1 for $4.50*
***L613B**: 3 for $9.50*
***L613C**: 6 for $17.50*

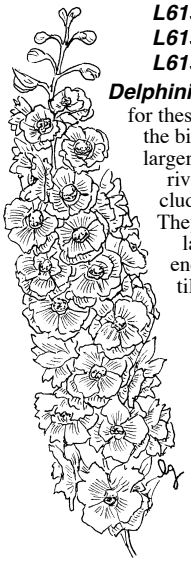


***Convallaria majalis* Lily of the Valley** Produces long stems of dainty bell-shaped fragrant white flowers in late spring to early summer, followed by small orange berries. Intoxicating fragrance and delicate shape add welcome notes to bouquets. Makes a hardy bedding or border plant and is a vigorous groundcover, even in dry shady areas. Can become invasive, so choose your spot wisely. Prefers partial to full shade. *Caution: all parts of the plant are poisonous; wash hands after handling*. Plant pips 2" deep, 3–5" apart in rich moist soil. 6–8" tall. Z2.

***L614A**: 5 for $4.75*
***L614B**: 10 for $8.50*
***L614C**: 25 for $18.00*

***Coreopsis grandiflora* 'Sunray'** Produces radiant double and semi-double deep golden-yellow flowers. A workhorse in the wild border, this long-blooming drought-tolerant self-sowing cultivar offers unbeatable early to late-season color. Deadhead to encourage a steady supply of blooms. Or, to attract birds in winter, leave the seedheads—goldfinches are especially fond of them. Plant in full sun 12–18" apart in moist well-drained soil. 18–24" tall. Z4.

***L615A**: 1 for $5.75*
***L615B**: 2 for $10.00*
***L615C**: 3 for $13.00*



***Delphinium* 'Magic Fountains' Mix** No staking needed for these stunning sturdy 3' flower spikes. Easier to grow than the big delphiniums, the 'Magic Fountains' series produce a larger spectacle each year as they get established, coming to rival the big ones for profusion of lavish flowers. Mix includes white, pink, lavender, lilac, sky blue and dark blue. They are heavy feeders: sidedress lightly in early, mid and late spring for best show. Remove spent flowerstalks to encourage fall rebloom. Plant 12–24" apart in highly fertile non-acid loam in full sun or light shade. 28–36" tall. Our plants this year are in 3" plugs. Z3.

***L616A**: 1 for $4.00*
***L616B**: 3 for $9.50*
***L616C**: 6 for $17.50*

Planting instructions for these perennial plants on page 68.

***Dianthus barbarini* Red Sweet William**
A traditional cottage garden favorite with beautifully scented scarlet flowerheads. These charming biennials are worth their weight in gold in the border, attracting butterflies hummingbirds and women with scissors! Your original plants will eventually die back but the patch will continue to thrive because Sweet William reseeds abundantly. At my house, it grows right in the grass as a wildflower patch. 4–8" tall. Z4.

***L617A**: 1 for $4.75*
***L617B**: 3 for $12.50*
***L617C**: 6 for $22.00*

***Dicentra spectabilis* Bleeding Heart**
Graceful racemes arch over clumps of attractive cut foliage. Distinctive heart-shaped flowers dangle in a row on each raceme like charms on a bracelet. This classic hardy long-lived perennial thrives in rich moist soil and partial shade. Plant 2–4" deep, 24" apart. Blooms in early to mid spring, goes dormant in summer. 30–36" tall. Z3.

***D. s.* Old-Fashioned Bleeding Heart** Quintessential garden favorite delights every spring with pink heart-shaped flowers with a white detail. Excellent cutflower. Prefers plenty of room to bush out.

***L618A**: 1 for $4.25*
***L618B**: 3 for $9.00*
***L618C**: 6 for $16.00*

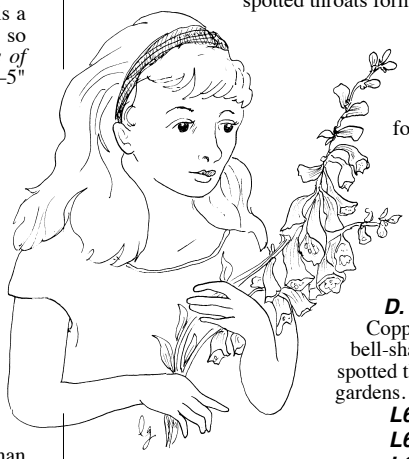
***D. s.* 'Alba' White Bleeding Heart** Elegant chains of *white* heart-shaped flowers dangle beneath the arching leafless racemes. Forms large bushy clumps of light green foliage. An essential addition to the cutflower garden.

***L619A**: 1 for $4.25*
***L619B**: 3 for $9.00*
***L619C**: 6 for $16.00*

***D. s.* 'Valentine' Bleeding Heart** A new twist on the classic favorite. Bright cherry-red flowers with white tips dangle from red-tinted arching stems. This is the first red Dicentra I've seen that is true to the classic form.

***L620A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L620B**: 2 for $12.00*
***L620C**: 3 for $16.50*

***Digitalis* Foxglove** Delightful tubular bell-shaped flowers with veined and spotted throats form along stately spires above basal rosettes of deep green velvet foliage. Flowers June through August. Good for cutting or the naturalized border. A must-have in every cottage garden. This year's offerings are both considered perennial foxgloves; however, we think they are best treated as biennials. Spread out the seedlings as they appear and a glorious patch will result in a few years. Plant 12–24" apart in moist slightly acid soil in full sun to part shade. *Caution: all parts of the plant are poisonous; wash hands after handling*. Z3.



***D. mertonensis* Strawberry Foxglove**
Copper-tinged strawberry-rose 2½" pendulous bell-shaped flowers adorned with pink and white spotted throats. The hardiest foxglove for northern gardens. 2–4' tall.

***L621A**: 1 for $4.50*
***L621B**: 3 for $11.75*
***L621C**: 6 for $22.00*

***D. purpurea* 'Dalmation Peach' Foxglove** Elegant peachy-yellow blossoms with orange speckled throats. This soft and subtle beauty flowers in the first year. 2–3' tall.

***L622A**: 1 for $4.50*
***L622B**: 3 for $11.75*
***L622C**: 6 for $22.00*

***Echinops bannaticus* 'Blue Glow' Globe Thistle** 1½" steel-blue spiked spheres balance atop stiff stems with deeply divided silvery green leaves. Excellent addition to wreaths and fresh or dried arrangements. Blooms July to August. Tolerates shallow rocky ground. Plant 1–2' apart in full sun and well-drained soil. 3–4' tall. Z3.

***L623A**: 1 for $5.50*
***L623B**: 3 for $14.25*
***L623C**: 6 for $24.00*

Ferns are flowerless spore-producing perennials represented by more than 10,000 species worldwide, ranging from 70' tropical tree ferns to teensy plants sprouting from cracks in alpine rock. In Maine we enjoy lush fern displays all summer on the roadsides and in the woods. More and more people are using ferns as foundation plantings and in all kinds of shaded spots. Ferns make wonderful low-maintenance foliage plants that thrive in moist woodsy humus-rich soil and lend a serene aura to a shady garden or landscape. Mulch if necessary to keep crowns from drying out.

***Adiantum pedatum* Maidenhair Fern** or **Eastern Maidenhair** Delicate whorled form makes it one of my favorites. Glossy black stems curve up and then droop toward the ground with more narrow black stems growing in elegant arches from the main stem. Tiny distinct ginkgo-like green leaves line every stem. Plant 12" apart. Grows 10–12" tall. Native to eastern North America. Z2.

***L624A**: 1 for $4.75*
***L624B**: 3 for $12.25*
***L624C**: 6 for $22.00*

***Athyrium felix femina* 'Branford Beauty' Fern** A hybrid of Japanese Painted Fern and Lady Fern. The best of both worlds with the superior posture of Lady Fern and the silvery sage colors of the Japanese Painted Fern with red-shaded stems. I planted one four years ago at the base of a giant cedar tree and it has developed into a healthy clump. 24" tall. Z3.

***L625A**: 1 for $5.50*
***L625B**: 3 for $14.00*
***L625C**: 6 for $24.00*

***Dryopteris affinis* 'Cristata The King' Fern** Long magnificent arching shiny green fronds with crested (split) leaflets toward the tips. A fabulous frill for the fern fanatic! Z3.

***L626A**: 1 for $5.50*
***L626B**: 3 for $14.00*
***L626C**: 6 for $24.00*

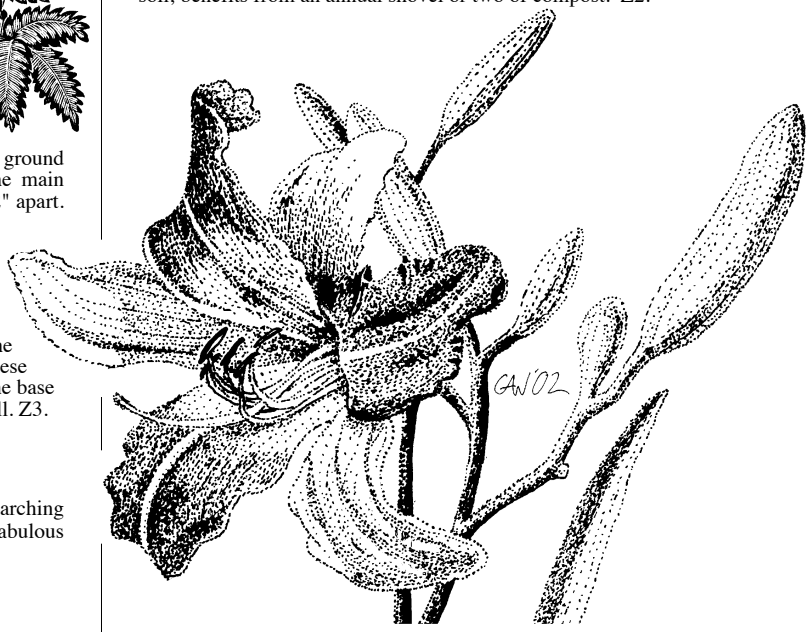
***Matteuccia struthiopteris* Ostrich Fern** One of the largest hardy deciduous ferns, Ostrich Fern features beautiful bright green frond tips that curl like ostrich feathers, making this our best-selling fern for the past eight years. Spreads by underground runners, and will form large colonies if given the chance. Likes open shade, woods and wet banks. Tolerates sun in swampy areas. Native to Europe, but well established and welcome in North America. 3–6' tall. Z2.

***L627A**: 1 for $5.50*
***L627B**: 3 for $14.00*
***L627C**: 6 for $24.00*

***Osmunda regalis* Royal Fern** One of the showiest garden ferns, makes a great focal point at the waterside or in a woodland. Attains giant proportions! Soft and wavy deciduous lance-shaped light green fronds can reach 3' long. Sometimes called **Flowering Fern** because some of the fronds have brown spore cases on their tips that lend a decorative tassel-like appearance. Reaches up to 6' tall and more than 9' wide at maturity. Evolutionarily speaking, *Osmunda* is one of the oldest plant genera, native to North and South America and Asia. Some Royal Fern individuals are said to be 1000 years old. Ours are much younger. Z3.

***L628A**: 1 for $5.50*
***L628B**: 3 for $14.00*
***L628C**: 6 for $24.00*

***Hemerocallis* Daylily** Champion low-maintenance perennial produces a bush of narrow arched leaves topped with lily-shaped flowers from July to September. *Hemerocallis* means 'beautiful day,' referring to the fact that each flower lasts only a day, but since each scape (or stem) is covered with buds, bloom periods can be extensive and the long stems work well in bouquets. Trouble-free, chokes out weeds. Flourishes under a wide range of conditions, from full sun to shade, wet to dry. Plant 12–18" apart in average soil; benefits from an annual shovel or two of compost. Z2.



***H.* 'Alabama Jubilee'** Scintillating scarlet-orange petals with gold flashes, a bright red halo and light green throat. A passionate and generous Waterville daylily gardener opens up her gardens for two days each summer and will dig giant clumps to share with other daylily devotees. This year Alabama Jubilee stole the show with its breathtaking fragrance and 7" wide fluorescent blooms. One of the best and brightest daylilies available. Midseason. 30" tall.

***L629A**: 1 for $9.75*
***L629B**: 2 for $18.00*
***L629C**: 3 for $24.00*

***H.* 'Diva Assoluta'** Diva assoluta is the title given to the most outstanding of female opera singers—a rare honor given only to those worthy of international acclaim. Our Diva Assoluta is a soft and lovely cream color with a subtle pink blush, glowing apple-green throat and delicate golden-yellow edge. Fragrant $5^1/_2$" flowers on 24" tall scapes. Grown by Lew Purinton, Somerville, ME, gardener and daylily-collector extraordinaire. Early to midseason. *Supplies may be limited. Order early.* **ME Grown.**

***L630A**: 1 for $5.50*
***L630B**: 3 for $13.50*
***L630C**: 6 for $24.00*

***H.* 'Entrapment'** is sure to snare with its gently veined petals in serene shades of violet with lavender-white racing stripes, citron-yellow throats and ruffled edges. Some folks have reported 32 flowers per stem at full maturity. Midseason re-bloomer. 26" tall.

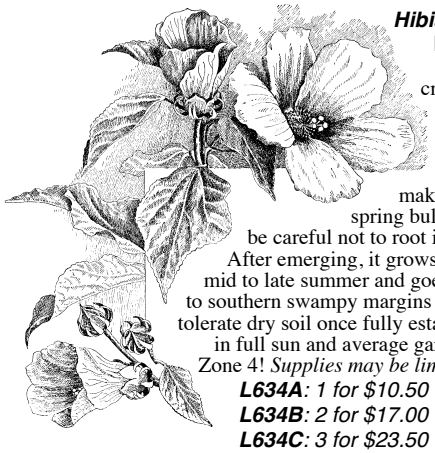
***L631A**: 1 for $5.75*
***L631B**: 3 for $14.50*
***L631C**: 6 for $26.00*

***H.* 'Orange Prelude'** Currier McEwen intro, 1974. Bright and bold 6" tangerine-orange blossoms appear in mid to late June when daylilies are scarce and mostly yellow. This early season standout has a light and lovely fragrance, high bud count and extended bloom time. Another choice selection grown by Lew Purinton. Early. 28" tall. **ME Grown.**

***L632A**: 1 for $5.00*
***L632B**: 3 for $13.50*
***L632C**: 6 for $23.50*

***H.* 'Storm of the Century'** Robust royal purple blossoms with a hint of bing cherry have golden ruffled edges and apple-green throats. Evergreen foliage. A must-have for the dark daylily enthusiast. Early to midseason re-bloomer. 24" tall.

***L633A**: 1 for $9.75*
***L633B**: 2 for $18.00*
***L633C**: 3 for $24.00*



***Hibiscus moscheutos* 'Lord Baltimore' Rose Mallow**
Brilliant ruffled giant crimson-red flowers span 10" across with overlapping petals. Glorious vigorous tall plant, hibiscus is one of the last to appear in spring, making it a good companion for spring bulbs. Since it emerges so late, be careful not to root it out during spring cleanup. After emerging, it grows like crazy. Starts blooming mid to late summer and goes until frost. Though native to southern swampy margins and meadows, hibiscus will tolerate dry soil once fully established. Plant 18–24" apart in full sun and average garden soil. 4–5' tall. Hardy to Zone 4! *Supplies may be limited.*

***L634A**: 1 for $10.50*
***L634B**: 2 for $17.00*
***L634C**: 3 for $23.50*

Hosta has bold foliage in orderly mounds with dependable sprays of fragrant bell-shaped flowers on tall stalks. Valuable and cherished low-maintenance border plant provides shade-loving groundcover from spring to frost. With their varying colors, textures and clump sizes, hostas alone under trees can make a woodland garden. Hostas tolerate a wide range of soil conditions but need moisture. Those with blue and variegated leaves develop their best color in shade. Deep shade gives fewer flowers. Plant 2–4' apart in rich soil with adequate humus. Divide every 4–5 years, or disturb clumps as little as possible; they improve with age as they spread and establish. Z3.

***H.* 'Brother Stephan'** Hosta enthusiasts crave this cultivar for its unusual color variation and sturdy clumps of thick heavily corrugated leaves with golden maple-leaf–patterned centers and irregular deep green margins. White flowers. Slow to mature, so put on your patience pants and plant this brother where he can strut his stuff. 25" tall and 30" wide.

***L635A**: 1 for $12.50*
***L635B**: 2 for $21.00*
***L635C**: 3 for $29.00*

***H.* 'Guardian Angel'** In early spring large thick blue-green leaves display crisp white centers. By late spring a distinctive green misting appears over the white. A unique and stunning specimen with varying shades of lavender flowers. 24" tall and 36" wide.

***L636A**: 1 for $5.75*
***L636B**: 2 for $10.00*
***L636C**: 3 for $13.00*

***H.* 'Olive Bailey Langdon'** Displays large rounded corrugated leaves with deep powder-blue centers and wide irregular golden margins. White flowers. An improved version of the popular 'Frances Williams' has better color and is less prone to burning. 20" tall and 60" wide.

***L637A**: 1 for $5.50*
***L637B**: 3 for $14.00*
***L637C**: 6 for $25.00*

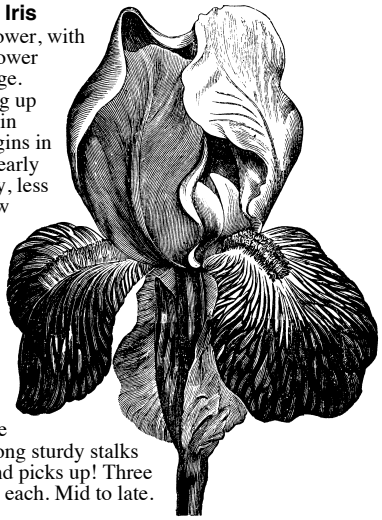
***H.* 'T–Rex'** Just when you thought it was safe to walk in the garden, this monster looms over the border. Glorious giant clumps of deeply veined and puckered blue-green leaves that measure 18" long and 14" wide! Stunning planted as a specimen. 30" tall and 80" wide.

***L638A**: 1 for $5.50*
***L638B**: 3 for $14.00*
***L638C**: 6 for $25.00*

***H.* 'Whirlwind'** Unique wavy upright leaves with streaked dark green margins and milky-yellow to white flamed centers that gradually turn to a light lime green. Lavender flowers. A handsome specimen at Fieldstone Gardens in Vassalboro stole my heart with its dramatic colors and shape-shifting antics. 20" tall and 40" wide.

***L639A**: 1 for $5.50*
***L639B**: 3 for $14.00*
***L639C**: 6 for $25.00*

***Iris germanica* Tall Bearded Iris**
A hardy perennial and fine cutflower, with multiple 3–6" blooms on each flower stalk. Strong sword-shaped foliage. "Beards" are soft hairs protruding up from the crest of each fall, often in contrasting colors. Blooming begins in the first real heat of late May or early June. Plant rhizomes horizontally, less than 1" deep, in clusters with new growth facing outward. Plant in full sun, in light limey *well-drained* soil. May take a year to establish before blooming. Vigorous plants, so give them room to spread. Clumps need dividing every 4–5 years. Z4.



***I. g.* 'Avalon Sunset'**
Eye-catching sunny orange standards and falls with tangerine beards, gorgeous ruffles, and strong sturdy stalks that won't pass out when the wind picks up! Three to four stems produce 8–10 buds each. Mid to late. 36" tall.

***L640A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L640B**: 3 for $17.00*
***L640C**: 6 for $29.00*

***I. g.* 'Batik'** Standards and falls are rich royal purple with finely etched streaks of white throughout and a shimmering gold and silver beard. Fragrant. Early. 24-26" tall.

***L641A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L641B**: 3 for $17.00*
***L641C**: 6 for $29.00*

***I. g.* 'Mexican Holiday'** has bronze-gold standards above maroon falls with golden ruffled edges. Three stems capable of producing up to 11 buds per stalk. Exquisite and extra early. 36" tall.

***L642A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L642B**: 3 for $17.00*
***L642C**: 6 for $29.00*

***I. g.* 'Saturday Night Live'** Mammoth ruby-red standards and falls with a yellow beard. Consistently yields 9–12 buds per stem. Midseason. 36" tall.

***L643A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L643B**: 3 for $17.00*
***L643C**: 6 for $29.00*

***I. g.* 'Swingtown'** Giant heavily ruffled mulberry-claret standards and falls with a sweet lavender fragrance. Swingtown is a prolific bloomer with stiff stems that produce three branches and 7–9 buds per stem. Late. 36" tall.

***L644A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L644B**: 3 for $17.00*
***L644C**: 6 for $29.00*

***I. sibirica* 'Golden Edge' Siberian Iris** Currier McEwen intro, 1992. Handsome velvety deep navy blue to violet tetraploid has a distinctive golden edge. In late June, delicate flowers dance atop strong thin stems, excellent for cutting. Tall slender slate-green foliage looks good all summer. Tolerates most conditions, but performs best in rich moist acid soil. Plant 12–15" apart in full sun or partial shade. Give them room to spread, and divide clumps every few years. Once again we offer locally grown stock from beautiful Fieldstone Gardens in Vassalboro. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***L645A**: 1 for $9.25*
***L645B**: 2 for $17.00*
***L645C**: 3 for $23.00*

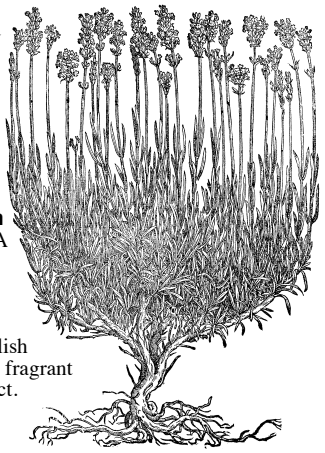
***I. versicolor* Northern Blue Flag** Northeastern native species carries gorgeous blue-violet flowers with bold purple veining and a white and lemon-yellow blaze. Tall slender blue-green arching lance-shaped leaves offer a strong vertical feature to the landscape. Requires consistently moist soil and prefers 2–4" of shallow standing water. Plant in full sun to part shade. Early. 36" tall. Z2.

***L646A**: 3 for $9.50*
***L646B**: 6 for $16.50*
***L646C**: 12 for $29.00*

***Kniphofia uvaria* Red Hot Poker** As the climate continues to warm, northern gardeners are making the best of it and daring to dream of fields of red hot poker in their own backyards. *Kniphofia* features spectacular 8" spikes in a riot of yellow, orange and fiery-red tubular flowers. A field of these along the roadside can take your breath away. Blooms July–September and makes an unusual accent in cutflower arrangements. Plant 18–24" apart in full sun in hot well-drained soil. For overwintering, mulch to protect the crowns from moisture and heaving. 30-36" tall. A definite Z6 and potentially Z5.

***L647A**: 1 for $5.75*
***L647B**: 3 for $15.25*
***L647C**: 6 for $29.00*

***Lavandula* spp. Lavender** Valued for dried arrangements, potpourri and herb bundles, lavender's aroma soothes the nervous system and perfumes the linen closet. Sweet-scented flower spikes extend above aromatic silvery-green lanceolate leaves. Blooms all summer. Makes a nice border, rockery, slope, edging or specimen plant. Plant in full sun, in moist *well-drained* soil, spaced according to variety.



***L. angustifolia* 'Munstead'** Considered the hardiest lavender. Light lavender flowers. Compact habit lends itself to edging walkways. Plant 12–18" apart. Grows 16-18" tall. Z4.

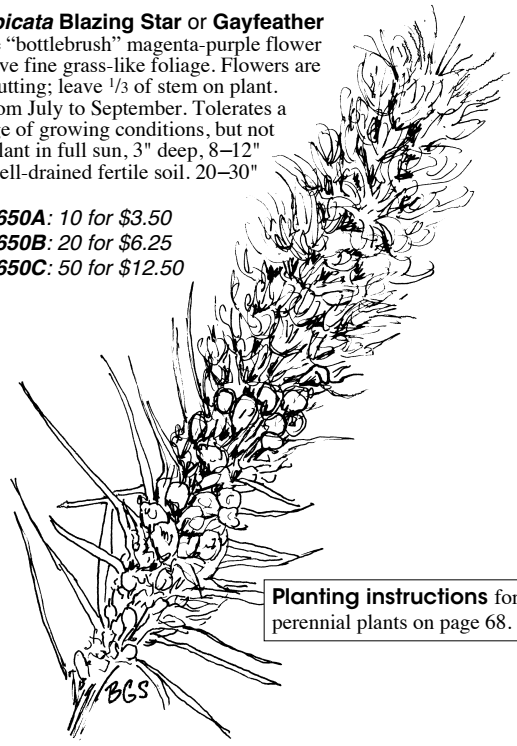
***L648A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L648B**: 2 for $11.25*
***L648C**: 3 for $15.00*

***L.* x *intermedia* 'Grosso'** or **Lavandin** Plump fragrant violet-blue flower spikes. A cross between *L. angustifolia* and *L. latifolia,* Grosso blooms a bit later than Munstead and often reblooms in the fall. Traditionally cultivated for oil production, with a heavier scent than the standard English lavenders. Taller stature makes a gorgeous fragrant hedge. Plant 36–48" apart for the best effect. Grows 24–30" tall. Thrives in Zone 6 but winters over in my Zone 4 gardens with careful mulching and thoughtful site selection.

***L649A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L649B**: 2 for $11.25*
***L649C**: 3 for $15.00*

***Liatris spicata* Blazing Star** or **Gayfeather** Stiff dense "bottlebrush" magenta-purple flower spikes above fine grass-like foliage. Flowers are good for cutting; leave 1/3 of stem on plant. Blooms from July to September. Tolerates a broad range of growing conditions, but not drought. Plant in full sun, 3" deep, 8–12" apart, in well-drained fertile soil. 20–30" tall. Z3.

***L650A**: 10 for $3.50*
***L650B**: 20 for $6.25*
***L650C**: 50 for $12.50*



Planting instructions for these perennial plants on page 68.

***Lilium* Lily** Queen of the perennial border, fabulously showy and surprisingly easy to grow. **Asiatic** types bloom early with upward-facing star-shaped blossoms on stalks reaching up to 4' tall. **Oriental** strains bloom late with fragrant flamboyant blossoms on stalks capable of reaching heights well above 5'. **OT** types are a cross between Oriental and Trumpet lilies featuring improved disease resistance, higher tolerance to temperature extremes, and absolutely ridiculous heights. **Tiger Lilies** are prized for their high bud count, unique beauty and exceptional ability to naturalize in the woodland garden.

Excellent as bedding plants or cutflowers, good as specimens or in solid masses. Light shade prolongs summer blooms and keeps the bulbs cool. Mulch in full sun. Plant bulbs 6–8" deep, 6" apart in rich slightly acid well-drained soil. All the lilies are hardy to Zone 3 unless otherwise noted.

***L.* 'Black Beauty'** OT. (*L. henryi* x *L. speciosum*) Jaw-dropping scores of dangling blood-red blossoms with reflexed petals, prominent maroon spots, fine white edging and apple-green star-shaped throats. Similiar in habit to tiger lilies and is often listed as such, but Black Beauty is actually one of the original OT (oriental-trumpet) lily crosses. Requires staking at 60–72" tall! Z2. 2–2 1/4" bulbs.

***L651A**: 2 for $6.50*
***L651B**: 6 for $16.50*
***L651C**: 12 for $30.00*

***L.* 'Cancun'** Asiatic. Orange-magenta petal tips with hot sunflower-yellow throats. A wild burst of tropical color. Produces 5–7 flowers per stem. 36–48" tall. 1 3/4–2" bulbs.

***L652A**: 2 for $4.00*
***L652B**: 6 for $10.50*
***L652C**: 12 for $18.00*

***L.* 'Casa Blanca'** Oriental. Pure white with textured white specks and bobbing russet anthers. Absolutely gorgeous. Their alluring fragrance fills the garden. Always one of our most popular offerings. 40–44" tall (but we've seen them blooming from 3–8'). Great prices on 2–2 1/4" bulbs.

***L653A**: 2 for $4.00*
***L653B**: 6 for $10.50*
***L653C**: 12 for $18.00*

***L.* 'Cobra'** Oriental. Deep dark smoldering red with narrow white edging. Upward-facing intensely fragrant flowers. 32" tall. 1 3/4–2" bulbs.

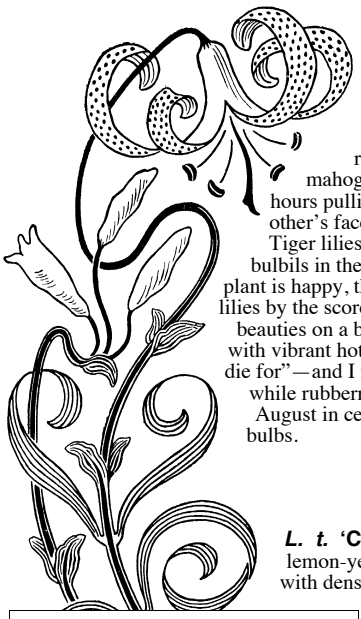
***L654A**: 2 for $4.00*
***L654B**: 6 for $10.50*
***L654C**: 12 for $18.00*

***L.* 'Flavia'** OT. Intensely fragrant giant creamy lemon-yellow flowers with vast rosey-red centers and golden-yellow throats. Long bloom time and extended vase life. Semi-upward–facing flowers. A sight to behold in the garden at 52" tall! 2–2 1/4" bulbs.

***L655A**: 2 for $6.00*
***L655B**: 6 for $14.00*
***L655C**: 12 for $24.00*

***L.* 'Starfighter'** Oriental. A real knockout with sizzling pinkish-red flowers, dark spotted throats and wide white edges. Upward-facing flowers. 44" tall. 1 3/4–2" bulbs.

***L656A**: 2 for $4.00*
***L656B**: 6 for $10.50*
***L656C**: 12 for $18.00*



***L. tigrinum* Orange Tiger Lily** (synonym *L. lancifolium*) Robust variety produces scads of fabulous orange nodding flowers with recurved petals generously flecked with dark purple dots. Prominent rusty-red anthers produce a beautiful mahogany pollen—my brother and I spent hours pulling off the anthers and painting each other's faces with the dust when we were kids. Tiger lilies are distinguished by purplish-black bulbils in the leaf axils along the stem. When the plant is happy, the bulbils will drop and sprout baby lilies by the score. A gorgeous ancient stand of these beauties on a back road in Belgrade is interplanted with vibrant hot pink phlox. The combination is "to die for"—and I nearly did on my morning commute while rubbernecking for a better look! Blooms in August in central Maine. 2–5' tall. Z2. 1 1/2–1 3/4" bulbs.

***L657A**: 2 for $5.00*
***L657B**: 6 for $13.00*
***L657C**: 12 for $23.00*

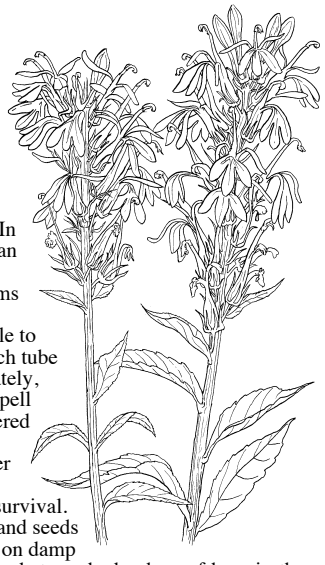
***L. t.* 'Citronelle' Tiger Lily** Luminous lemon-yellow version of the classic tiger lily with densely spotted throats. 1 1/2–1 3/4" bulbs.

***L658A**: 2 for $5.00*
***L658B**: 6 for $13.00*
***L658C**: 12 for $23.00*

The lily with the sprinkled dots,
Brands of the noontide beam;
The cardinal, and the blood-red spots,
Its double in the stream,

As if some wounded eagle's breast,
Slow throbbing o'er the plain,
Had left its airy path impressed
In drops of scarlet rain.

–Oliver Wendell Holmes
from "After a Lecture on Wordsworth"



***Lobelia cardinalis* Cardinal Flower** In early spring, this gorgeous North American native forms deep green rosettes, which produce tall green to burgundy-tinted stems with alternate lance-shaped leaves. Long tubular scarlet flower spikes are irresistible to hummingbirds and butterflies because each tube has a pool of nectar at its base. Unfortunately, habitat loss and thoughtless picking can spell disaster for this plant in the wild. Considered a short-lived perennial, lobelia will naturalize beautifully and reseed year after year with proper care in the first growing season. Lobelia depends on its seeds for survival. Healthy plants can produce several thousand seeds per stem, which will germinate well only on damp open ground. Plant along the riverbank and streambed, edges of bog, in the perennial border or in the meadow. Once it's established it is absolutely stunning. Best planted in light shade to full sun in *consistently moist soil*. Mulch to reduce weed competition in the first year. 4' tall. Our stock is MOFGA-certified organic, grown by the conscientious folks at Ripley Farm in Dover-Foxcroft. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***L659A**: 1 for $7.00*
***L659B**: 2 for $12.50*
***L659C**: 3 for $16.50*

***Monarda didyma* Bee Balm** or **Bergamot** or **Oswego Tea** is loved by bees, butterflies, and is one of the best hummingbird magnets nature has to offer! Wild and wily flowers form with tubular petals on pincushion heads borne above colorful bracts in July and August. Aromatic foliage. Good for borders, for wet areas and for cutting. Plant crowns 16–20" apart in light shade in moist soil. Thrives in full sun if given adequate moisture or mulched with leaf mold; tolerates most conditions. Z3.

***M.* 'Coral Reef'** Bright coral-pink! In my garden its color has exceeded my expectations. Excellent mildew resistance. Fabulous! 3–5' tall.

***L660A**: 1 for $5.25*
***L660B**: 3 for $13.00*
***L660C**: 6 for $24.00*

***M.* 'Jacob Cline'** Huge red flowers span 5" across. Jacob shows good vigor and resistance to mildew. Embraced in the nursery trade as "the best red." And we couldn't agree more. 3–5' tall.

***L661A**: 1 for $5.25*
***L661B**: 3 for $13.00*
***L661C**: 6 for $24.00*

Lily leaf beetle (*Liliocerис lilii*) has made its way to central Maine. We've had good results picking the first flush of adults and dropping them in soapy water; we've seen very few larvae. Some leaves had holes in them but the damage was nothing like the denuded stalks that some gardeners describe. Standard organic insecticides are also effective.

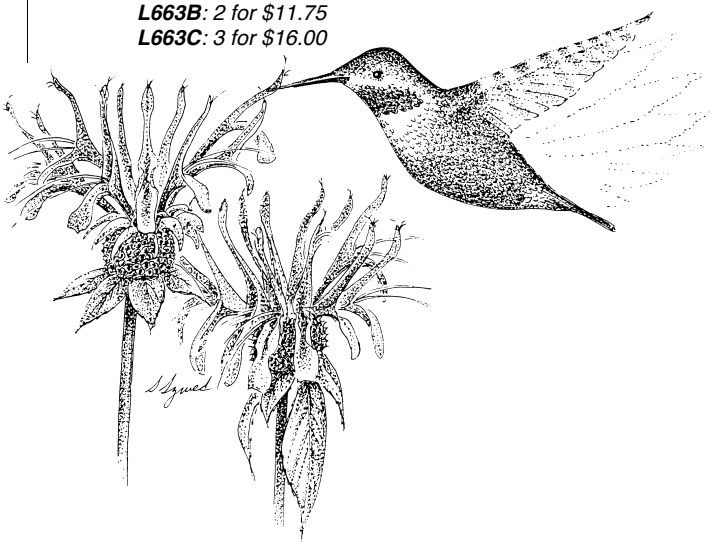
Small attractive bright red beetles (the adults) overwinter in soil and plant debris and emerge in early spring to munch, mate and lay tiny dull-orange eggs in irregular rows on the undersides of leaves. Larvae hatch in about a week and feed for 16–24 days on leaves of lilies (not daylilies), fritillaria and nightshades. The larvae are the real nuisance: voracious eaters, they carry their excrement on their backs to deter predators, which makes them mighty unappealing. They then drop to the ground where they pupate in cocoons. In about 25 days they emerge as adults.

***Nepeta faasenii* 'Walker's Low' Catmint** 2007 Perennial Plant of the Year. Aromatic grey-green foliage with long arching stems topped by lavender-blue flowers provides an eye-catching show of color nearly all summer. Creates a strong dependable low-growing hedge along any garden path. Flowers attract bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and human admiration. Cut back in midsummer to encourage steady blooms. Likes hot and dry, but will grow in any well-drained soil, full sun to part shade. 2–3' tall despite its name. Z3.

***L662A**: 1 for $5.00*
***L662B**: 3 for $12.50*
***L662C**: 6 for $22.50*

***Oligoneuron rigidum* Stiff Goldenrod** or **Rigida** Formerly classified as a member of the *Solidago* genus and recently re-classified as an *Oligoneuron*. Local grower Gene Ripley said it best: "Rigida displays the gorgeous yellow-gold vibrancy of goldenrod, but packed into a dense, showy, flat-topped cluster, with attractive lush slate-green foliage that you'd never recognize as a goldenrod. The pollinators absolutely love it, like all goldenrods, but Rigida draws them in without looking weedy or common. My favorite kind of plant: a native pollinator magnet that holds its own in the garden on looks alone!" Excellent cutflower. Plant in full sun to part shade in rich well-drained soil. Ranges from 2 to 5' tall. Our stock is MOFGA-certified organic, grown at Ripley Farm in Dover-Foxcroft. Z3. *Supplies may be limited. Please order early.* **ME Grown.**

***L663A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L663B**: 2 for $11.75*
***L663C**: 3 for $16.50*



***Paeonia lactiflora* Garden Peony** or **Chinese Peony** Red shoots appear in spring and form a bushy clump, about 3' x 3', of lustrous dark green deeply lobed foliage. Fat spherical buds on sturdy stems above the foliage gradually open into large beautiful flowers from late spring to early summer. (Ants may help the buds to open so don't discourage their presence.) May take up to 3 to 5 years to establish before blooming and resents being disturbed. Wait several years, until the plants have many stems (therefore many eyes), before attempting to divide. Z3.

***P. l.* 'Felix Crousse'** Superb spherical fragrant double carmine-red blossoms have an iridescent silver sheen. Highly productive, provides a lavish supply of blooms for your cutflower market. Late season. 28" tall.

***L664A**: 1 for $11.50*
***L664B**: 2 for $21.00*
***L664C**: 3 for $26.00*

***P. l.* 'Pink Hawaiian Coral'** A symphony of coral, peach, melon and pink shades in semi-double form. Mature plants will show all shades at once on fragrant cup-shaped blooms. Early. 36" tall.

***L665A**: 1 for $11.50*
***L665B**: 2 for $21.00*
***L665C**: 3 for $26.00*

***P. l.* 'Raspberry Sundae'** Giant delectable 6" blossoms feature fluffy mounds of pink-blushed creamy vanilla petals circled at the base by a pastel-pink guard. Delightful fragrance and delicate beauty. Early to midseason. 36" tall.

***L666A**: 1 for $14.25*
***L666B**: 2 for $26.50*
***L666C**: 3 for $34.00*

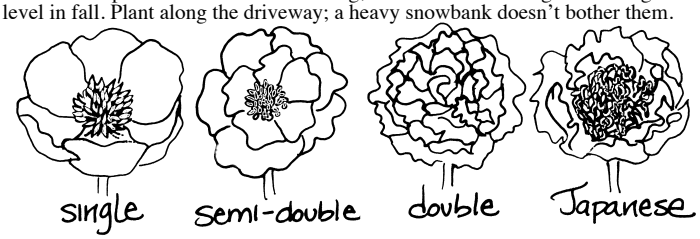
***P. l.* 'Red Charm'** Giant dark crimson double bomb type with a heavily ruffled pile of petals in the center surrounded by a red guard of smooth single outer petals. Emits a gentle scent of cloves and roses. Extra early bloom time! 32" tall.

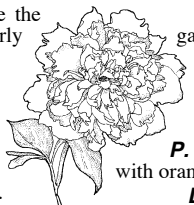
***L667A**: 1 for $19.50*
***L667B**: 2 for $33.75*
***L667C**: 3 for $45.00*

Garden Peonies Plant 2–3' apart with the eyes (where the growth shoots meet the root) no more than 1–1½" below the surface in well-drained soil, full sun to partial shade. Peonies are extremely long-lived so amend the soil richly when you plant. Compost, very well-rotted manure, bone meal and azomite are all recommended. After that they need only a bit of weeding and feeding to flourish.

Mature plants often need staking or tying because flowers and buds can be quite heavy. For big plants, I've been using a chicken-wire method that Mary Fowler recommended. Cut a flat circle of chicken wire 2 or 3' in diameter and place it on the shoots when they are 8–10" tall. The shoots lift the wire, grow through it and use it for an invisible support.

Remove spent flowers after blooming, then cut dead foliage to near ground level in fall. Plant along the driveway; a heavy snowbank doesn't bother them.

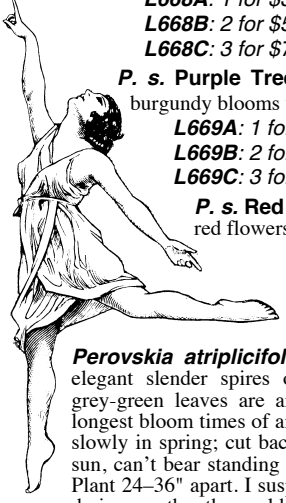




***Paeonia suffruticosa* Japanese Tree Peony** or **Moutan** is expensive, but as garden writer Peter Coats says, "It is worthwhile to sell everything one possesses to buy pæonies, and to dig up everything else in the garden to make room for them." Large stunning flowers in early June, before garden peony. Extravagantly big flowers with loose satiny petals. Full sun promotes fastest growth but also fades the flowers, which do best in dappled shade. 48–60" tall. One-year plants may need 2–3 years to mature before blooming begins. Z4.

***P. s.* 'Kinkaku' Tree Peony** Fully double blooms of yellow petals with orange edges, giving an overall orange effect.

***L668A**: 1 for $30.00*
***L668B**: 2 for $52.00*
***L668C**: 3 for $75.00*



***P. s.* Purple Tree Peony** Profusion of semi-double deep pink to burgundy blooms with yellow stamens.

***L669A**: 1 for $30.00*
***L669B**: 2 for $52.00*
***L669C**: 3 for $70.00*

***P. s.* Red Tree Peony** Profusion of semi-double 6–9" bright red flowers with vibrant yellow centers.

***L670A**: 1 for $30.00*
***L670B**: 2 for $52.00*
***L670C**: 3 for $70.00*

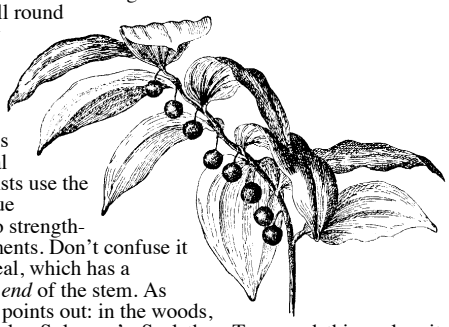
***Perovskia atriplicifolia* Russian Sage** Blooms in midsummer with elegant slender spires of lavender-blue tubular flowers. Finely divided grey-green leaves are aromatic when crushed. Perovskia has one of the longest bloom times of any blue-flowered plant. Semi-woody shrub emerges slowly in spring; cut back after frost. Tolerates drought, loves heat and full sun, can't bear standing water. Likes to spread out once it gets established. Plant 24–36" apart. I suspect that Zone 4 reports of winterkill are from poor drainage rather than cold, so a cautious Z4. 36–48" tall.

***L671A**: 1 for $4.50*
***L671B**: 3 for $11.00*
***L671C**: 6 for $19.50*

***Phlox paniculata* 'Red Riding Hood' Garden Phlox** Produces large spreading delicate satiny panicles of fragrant cherry-red flowers in mid to late summer when so much else is fading and coarse. Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds. Essential component of late-summer wedding bouquets. Extend the flowering season with regular watering and prompt deadheading. Prefers humus-rich soil that stays cool and moist in summer, benefits from regular sidedressing. Plant 2' apart, full sun to partial shade. Z3. 18-24" tall.

***L672A**: 1 for $5.75*
***L672B**: 2 for $10.00*
***L672C**: 3 for $13.00*

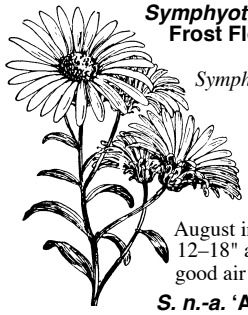
***Polygonatum biflorum* Solomon's Seal** forms clumps of graceful arching stems about 3' long with long narrow alternate leaves. Greenish-white bell-shaped tubular flowers dangle from the stems in a row in late spring, and become small round blue-black fruits in early fall. Native Americans used the root tea for ailments of stomach and lung and for general debility, and used washes from the root for external injuries. Western herbalists use the root as a connective tissue anti-inflammatory and to strengthen weak joints and ligaments. Don't confuse it with False Solomon's Seal, which has a plume-like flower at the *end* of the stem. As herbalist Jim McDonald points out: in the woods, "there's always more False Solomon's Seal than True, and this makes its ecological status an important consideration, especially when harvesting." Therefore, it's best to grow your own patch for making herbal remedies. Solomon's Seal is ideal for the shade or woodland garden. Z3.



***L673A**: 1 for $5.50*
***L673B**: 2 for $9.25*
***L673C**: 3 for $12.00*

***Pulmonaria saccharata* 'Mrs. Moon' Lungwort** Brighten up your shade garden with this bold-textured woodland perennial. Pulmonaria blooms like a chameleon, with periwinkle-blue buds that open to charming pink flowers, creating a striking effect with both colors appearing at once on the same plant. Ovate slate-green leaves are dressed in vivid silver-white splotches. Presents a brilliant early season contrast to blooming daffodils and emerging hostas and ferns. Plant 1–2' apart in moist soil and full to partial shade. Grows 9–12" tall with a slow but steady spread of up to 2' wide. Z3.

***L674A**: 1 for $4.00*
***L674B**: 3 for $10.00*
***L674C**: 6 for $17.50*



***Symphyotrichum novae-angliae* Aster, Starwort** or **Frost Flower** The New World asters have been moved out of the Aster genus and are technically now *Symphyotrichum*. Freely branching sprays of brightly colored flowers decorate the autumn landscape throughout the Northeast. Asters add hardy grace to the back of the wild border and will naturalize on banks or in the meadow. Cut back slightly in early to mid June to induce an abundance of 1 1/2–2" rayed blooms from late August into October. Deer don't usually eat them. Plant 12–18" apart in light moist humusy soil in full sun with good air circulation. Z4.

***S. n.-a.* 'Alma Potschke'** Surprising wonderful intense salmon-rose with a golden-yellow eye. One of my favorites. 30–36" tall.

***L675A**: 1 for $4.50*
***L675B**: 3 for $12.00*
***L675C**: 6 for $21.00*

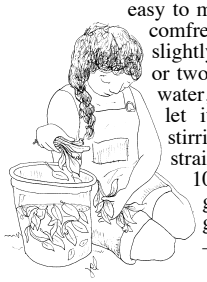
***S. n.-a.* 'Purple Dome'** Deep purple flowers with an excellent compact habit. I planted some in front of an old stone wall next to a stand of monkshood and the combination is glorious in September. 18" tall.

***L676A**: 1 for $4.50*
***L676B**: 3 for $12.00*
***L676C**: 6 for $21.00*

***Symphytum* x *uplandicum* 'Bocking 14' Russian Comfrey** Highly recommended as a companion plant for orchards. Makes an excellent addition to the compost pile as it is rich in silica, nitrogen, magnesium, calcium, potassium and iron. Use as mulch or turn the leaf into compost tea for your garden. Clusters of bell-like magenta-purple flowers dangle above the deep green bristled foliage. Easy-to-grow vigorous plant demands space and if the roots are disturbed *can be very invasive*; be careful where you plant it and control with regular harvest. Russian comfrey is thought to have a higher pyrrolizidine alkaloid content than the species. It is generally recommended to use *Symphytum officinale* (on page 68) when making herbal medicines. Space 16–24" apart in well-drained soil, sun or shade. 24–48" tall. Our stock is MOFGA-certified organic, grown at Ripley Farm in Dover-Foxcroft. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***L677A**: 1 for $5.75*
***L677B**: 3 for $14.50*
***L677C**: 6 for $22.00*

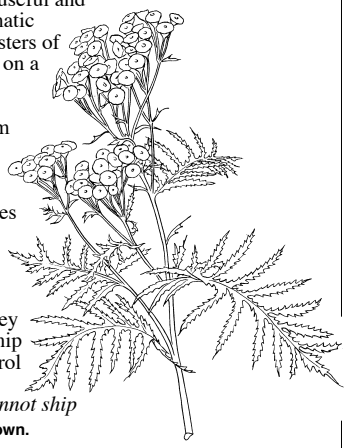
Ripley Farms Russian Comfrey Compost Tea



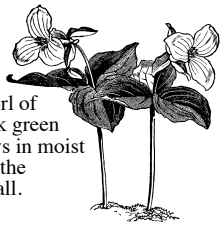
"We love the Bocking 14 Comfrey especially as a super garden fertilizer when fermented into a liquid concentrate. It's really easy to make: stuff a five-gallon bucket full of comfrey leaves that have been cut and slightly wilted in the sun for an hour or two. Fill the bucket to the top with water, loosely cover with a lid and let it steep for a couple weeks, stirring it every couple days. Then strain out the remaining solids, dilute 10:1 with water and spray on your garden as a great nutrient-rich growth booster."

–Gene & Mary Margaret Ripley, Dover-Foxcroft, ME

***Tanecetum vulgare* Tansy** People either love or hate this wild and wily beauty. There is no doubt that Tansy is a useful and beautiful plant. Tall and stately with aromatic feathery tooth-edged foliage and bold clusters of bright yellow button-like flowers that put on a show from mid-July to late fall. Adds a vibrant note to dried arrangements. High camphor content deters codling moth from fruit, repels borers—particularly in peach trees, and is traditionally used in the home to repel ants, fleas, flies and mice. *Pregnant women avoid*. Tansy accumulates potassium from the soil making it a valuable addition to the compost heap. *Can be invasive, and is best planted in heavy clay soils* so the underground rhizomes will spread more slowly than they would in light well-drained conditions. Snip off the flower heads for even further control of its vigorous spreading nature. Plant 2' apart in full sun in heavy clay soil. *We cannot ship to MT, SD or WA*. Grows 4–5' tall. **ME Grown.**



***L678A**: 1 for $5.75*
***L678B**: 3 for $14.50*
***L678C**: 6 for $20.00*



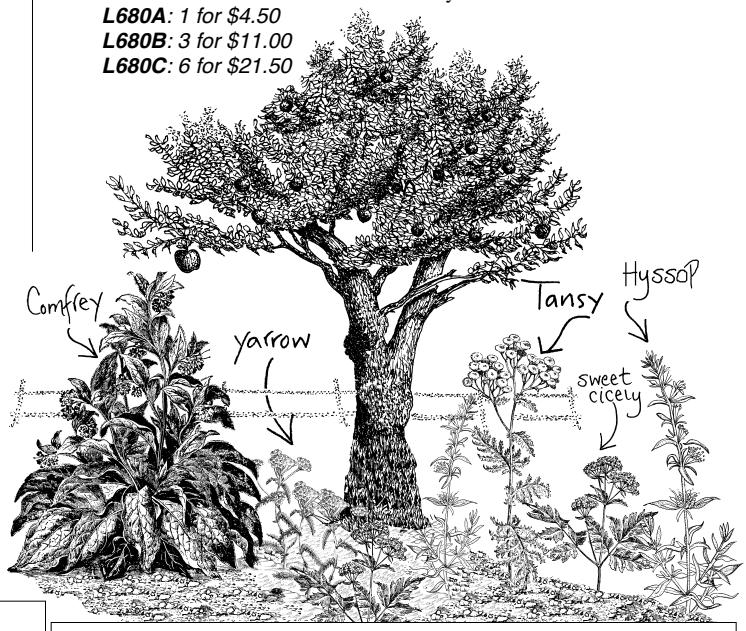
Trillium Classic native wildflower will gradually build a quiet woodland colony if allowed to grow in peace. In late spring, three petals and three green sepals bloom atop a single stalk above a single whorl of three prominently-veined, ovate to egg-shaped, dark green leaves. Spreads by underground rhizomes and grows in moist rich woods, full or part shade, from Nova Scotia to the mountains of Georgia, west into Michigan. 8–16" tall. Nursery propagated. Z4.

***T. erectum* Red Trillium, Stinking Benjamin** or **Wakerobin** Our local wildflower preserve features huge patches of these velvety-soft maroon flowers. A spectacular and pleasing sight.

***L679A**: 1 for $4.50* ***L679B**: 3 for $11.00* ***L679C**: 6 for $21.50*

***T. grandiflorum* Great White Trillium** or **Wood Lily** Pure white flower reaches for the sun as it moves across the sky.

***L680A**: 1 for $4.50*
***L680B**: 3 for $11.00*
***L680C**: 6 for $21.50*



Orchard Companion Collection

Companion plants encourage natural processes that benefit the overall health and vitality of fruit trees. This means less work lugging around sprayers, buying fertilizer, spreading compost and worrying about pollination. These plants help us do the work and they do it well. See page 14 for more about the functional orchard.

Here are 5 important roles companion plants can play in the orchard:

Living Mulches produce large quantities of organic matter that can be cut back to decompose around tree bases, enriching the soil.

Dynamic Accumulators have long taproots that bring up minerals from deep subsoil. Cut foliage throughout the season to break down around trees, creating dark nutrient-dense soil.

Nitrogen-Fixers transform nitrogen from the air to the soil where it can be absorbed by tree roots.

Beneficial Insect Accumulators contain nectar sought by predatory insects (aka beneficial insects, including braconid wasps, syrphid flies and lacewings) that feed on fruit-tree pests. BIAs also attract orchard pollinators.

Pest Confusers have bitter aromas that deter and confuse insect pests from eating fruit.

Our collection consists of one each of the following five plants:

***Achillea millefolium* Yarrow** Living Mulch rich in copper, nitrogen and phosphorus. Excellent addition to the compost pile. More information on next page.

***Hyssopus officinalis* Hyssop** Pest Confuser with bitter aroma, long used as a companion plant in gardens and orchards. More information on page 68.

***Myrrhis odorata* Sweet Cicely** Beneficial Insect Accumulator provides nectar for adult syrphid flies whose larvae eat huge quantities of aphids. Predatory pest habitat. Will thrive in the shade of mature trees. More information on page 68.

***Tanecetum vulgare* Tansy** Pest Confuser with strong aroma of camphor, deters codling moth and borers. Toxic if eaten. More information at left.

***Symphytum officinale* Comfrey** Dynamic Accumulator rich in nitrogen, potassium and calcium when cut to the ground for mulch; makes a mineral-rich foliar spray. Predatory pest habitat. Nearly impossible to eradicate: plant it where you want it forever, 4–15' from tree trunks. More information on page 68.

All of the plants offered in this collection are Maine grown. Supplies may be limited. Please order early. No substitutions.

***L697A**: 1 collection for $26.50*

Herbaceous Medicinals

Your garden can be the perfect classroom for learning how Nature can offer solutions to its own problems. Growing plants as medicine allows you to observe their physical forms and spirits and may encourage you to explore the rich cultural histories surrounding the use of a vast array of plant species.

For safety's sake we urge you to consult a local herbalist or botanical apothecary before using medicine made from any plant. Accurate plant identification and research is vital for your own protection! Some of the plants listed are specifically for low-dose or homeopathic usage.

Plants may take a year or more to establish before they flower; roots often take several years to reach harvestable maturity. The organic listings are all certified by Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA).

Achillea millefolium **Yarrow** has a centuries-old tradition of use as an external styptic, so named for its use by Achilles to staunch battle wounds. A natural anti-inflammatory, yarrow has a long history of use by women to regulate the menstrual cycle, reducing heavy bleeding and easing period pain. Yarrow is often used in combination with other herbs as a cold remedy and to reduce fever. Infusion of flowering tops stimulates healthy digestion and improves circulation. White flowers bloom June through September. An excellent orchard companion and a beautiful addition to the perennial border, meadow, herb or moon garden. Our stock is MOFGA-certified organic, grown at Ripley Farm. Z3. **ME Grown.**

L681A*: 1 for $6.50*
L681B*: 2 for $11.25*
L681C*: 3 for $15.00*

See page 59 for an ornamental yarrow.

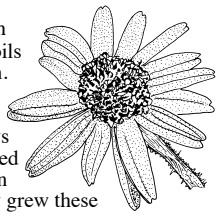
Actaea racemosa **Black Cohosh** or **Black Snakeroot** Formerly known as ***Cimicifuga racemosa***. Provides the ultimate backdrop for the lightly shaded woodland garden. From late July into August, long arching racemes of creamy white and gold serpentine flower spikes soar 6–10' over a 3–4' mound of fine-textured green compound foliage. Diuretic and anti-inflammatory. Anti-spasmodic for cramps, pains, cramped nerves and emotions, included in many premenstrual and perimenopausal formulas. Roots contain salicylic acid. *Pregnant women avoid*. Prefers part shade, but tolerates full sun in deep moist soil. Grows well in boggy spots. Develops large clumps of rootstock so give it room to spread. Plant 3' apart in rich moist soil, part sun, part shade. Our stock is certified organic, grown by Joanna Linden at Shooting Star Farm in Canaan. Z3. **ME Grown.**

L682A*: 1 for $7.50*
L682B*: 2 for $13.75*
L682C*: 3 for $18.00*

Althaea officinalis **Marshmallow** Small delicate lavender-white flowers with darker lavender stamens appear up and down the stalks of this beautiful towering medicinal plant. I've been drawn to marshmallow ever since I watched charismatic herbalist Deb Soule rub its soft velvet leaf against her cheek and explain how much the ruby-throated hummingbird appreciates the nectar of marshmallow flowers. The leaf, flower and mucilagenous roots are traditionally used to soothe the mucous membrane linings of the lungs and digestive tract, and to calm the lining of the urinary tract. Leaf is best used *fresh* for tea, and the dried roots are best when soaked overnight in cool water for tea. Harvest 4-year-old roots for medicinal use. Wonderful in a hedgerow and magnificent planted with black cohosh as they often blossom together in late July and into August. Readily self-sows. Plant 1–2' apart in light moist soil, part sun, part shade. 5–8' tall. Our stock is MOFGA-certified organic, grown at Ripley Farm in Dover-Foxcroft. Z4. **ME Grown.**

L683A*: 1 for $7.50*
L683B*: 2 for $13.75*
L683C*: 3 for $18.00*

Throughout the catalog you will find other plants that have a common tradition of medicinal use. These include asclepias, bee balm, blueberry, elderberry, high and lowbush cranberry, hops, lavender, linden, rose, solomon's seal, witch hazel, eastern white pine and more. Our descriptions include notes about traditional medicinal use.



Arnica chamissonis Spreading groundcover with bright yellow daisy-like flowers used externally in oils and salves to treat bruises, sprains and inflammation. Never take internally except in homeopathic doses. In the right conditions a few plants will develop into a dense long-lived patch. Blooms in July. Grows successfully in our climate and is a generally accepted substitute for *A. montana*. Plant in full sun 1' apart in moist well-drained soil. Lauren Cormier sustainably grew these North American natives. Z3. **ME Grown.**

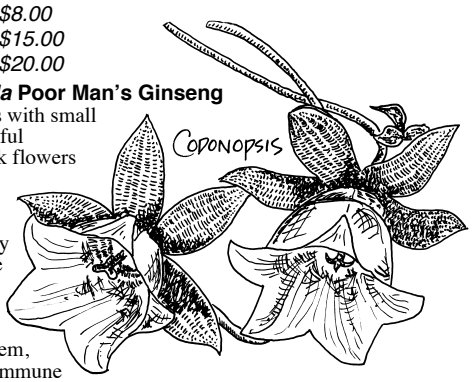
L684A*: 1 for $7.00*
L684B*: 2 for $12.50*
L684C*: 3 for $16.50*

Asarum canadense **Canadian Wild Ginger** Heart-shaped leaves up to 7" wide will spread into a beautiful groundcover. Leaves are large and slightly fuzzy, not small and glossy like the European species. Aromatic roots used like other gingers for their warming qualities and for soothing indigestion, coughs, colds and motion sickness. Grown for roots and foliage. The small reddish-brown urn-shaped flowers grow near the soil surface or in the leaf mold so crawling insects will pollinate them. They're fun to search for but won't decorate your landscape. Requires shade and moist rich woodland soil. 6–12" tall. Z3.

L685A*: 1 for $4.25*
L685B*: 3 for $11.50*
L685C*: 6 for $18.00*

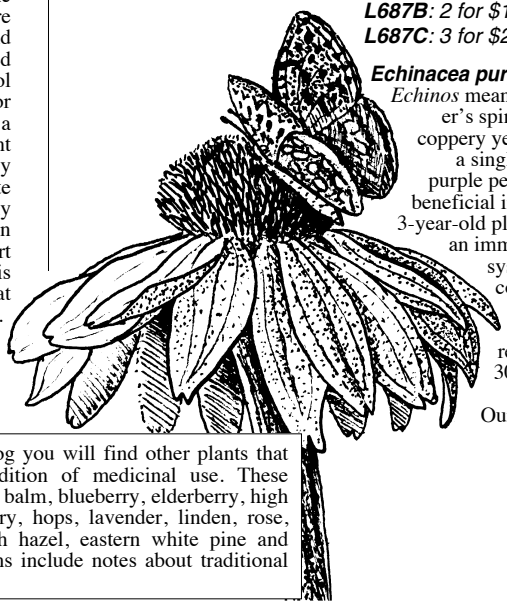
Astragalus membranaceus **Chinese Milk Vetch** Root is *huang qi* in China. Deep-rooted leguminous plant forms an upright bush with many stems, each thickly covered with tiny pinnate leaves and small arching racemes bearing rows of whitish-yellow flowers. This important Chinese medicinal, when used over many months, is known to rebuild the immune system while combating exhaustion. Long-term tonic use increases stamina and improves resistance to cold temperatures. Harvest 4- to 6-year-old roots in fall. Plant in full sun, 12" apart in deep gravelly well-drained soil. 18–36" tall. Our stock is MOFGA-certified organic, grown at Ripley Farm. Z4. **ME Grown.**

L686A*: 1 for $8.00*
L686B*: 2 for $15.00*
L686C*: 3 for $20.00*



Codonopsis pilosula **Poor Man's Ginseng** Tendrilly twining vines with small ovate leaves and beautiful pendulous green to pink flowers with purple veining. Blossoms mature into five-sided balloon-like seed pods. Considerably easier to grow than true ginseng and is milder in effect. Energizing, adaptogenic, strengthens the respiratory system, and supports the deep immune system. Harvest 3- to 6-year-old roots in fall once the aerial parts have died back. Vines up to 6' long at maturity. Plant in sun to part shade, with good drainage. Z4. **ME Grown.**

L687A*: 1 for $8.00*
L687B*: 2 for $15.00*
L687C*: 3 for $20.00*

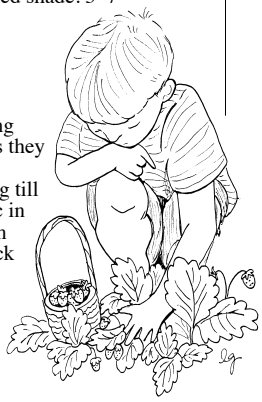


Echinacea purpurea **Purple Coneflower** *Echinos* means 'spiny' and the coneflower's spiny seedheads are a beautiful coppery yellow-brown, surrounded by a single row of reflexed lavender-purple petals. Attracts butterflies and beneficial insects. Tincture the roots of 3-year-old plants for a remedy that gives an immediate boost to the immune system; use it when you feel a cold or flu coming on. Tolerates wind, heat and drought once established. Will reseed abundantly. Plant 20–30" apart in full sun and light sandy soil. Grows 3–5' tall. Our stock is MOFGA-certified organic, grown by Joanna Linden. Z3. **ME Grown.**

L688A*: 1 for $7.00*
L688B*: 2 for $12.50*
L688C*: 3 for $16.50*

***Eupatorium perfoliatum* Boneset** Also called **Thoroughwort**. Majestic North American native with flat-topped clusters of creamy-white to milky-lavender flowerheads atop fuzzy upright stems with deeply veined dark green diamond-shaped perfoliate leaves. Traditionally used to alleviate the symptoms of "breakbone fever," a highly infectious disease known to cause extreme fever and aching pain that travels deep into the bones—hence the name boneset. Tincture of the flowering tops and leaves induces sweating, stimulates the immune system and acts as a mild anti-inflammatory. North American Indians and early colonial settlers administered boneset tea during flu epidemics, and its common use continued well into the 20th century. Peak bloom is mid to late August, providing a generous late-season supply of nectar for adult butterflies and other pollinating insects. Boneset is a practical and fetching addition to the wilder part of the orchard and perennial border. Plant 3' apart in moist soil and full sun to dappled shade. 5–7' tall. Grown by Lauren Cormier. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***L689A**: 1 for $7.00*
***L689B**: 2 for $12.50*
***L689C**: 3 for $16.50*



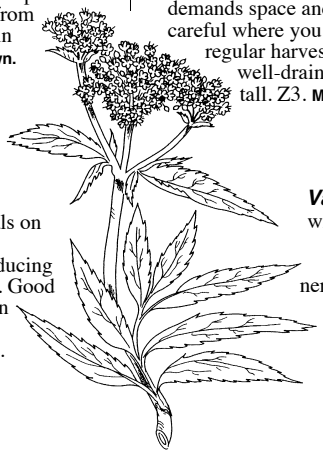
***Fragaria vesca* Alpine Strawberry** Great for edging walkway, bed or border; spreads by runners that root as they go. Familiar compound leaves and white flowers are followed by juicy sweet rich red berries from late spring till fall. Leaves are considered blood purifying and diuretic in European folk tradition. Plant in full sun, 8–12" apart in slightly acid moist well-drained soil. 4–8" tall. Our stock is MOFGA-certified organic, grown at Ripley Farm in Dover-Foxcroft. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***L690A**: 1 for $6.50*
***L690B**: 3 for $16.50*
***L690C**: 6 for $29.00*

***Hyssopus officinalis* Hyssop** Vivid blue-violet double-lipped flowers on spikes blossom from June through September. Infusion of the fragrant dark green leaves and flowering tops are traditionally used as tea or made into syrup to ease digestion and treat chronic respiratory infections after they have peaked. Hyssop increases the production of liquid mucus and acts as an expectorant. Thrives in dry soil, useful on slopes and any sunny difficult place. Makes a beautiful hedge that will draw bees from far and wide. 12–20" tall. Plant 12–24" apart in poor soil, full sun to light shade. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***L691A**: 1 for $7.00*
***L691B**: 2 for $12.50*
***L691C**: 3 for $16.50*

Lavender see page 63.



***Monarda fistulosa* Wild Bergamot** or **Bee Balm** Our native wildflower species with aromatic lavender blossoms. Tubular petals on pincushion heads borne above colorful bracts in July and August. Infusion of the aerial parts can be used to improve digestion by reducing flatulence. Delicious used as tea or added to meat and bean dishes. Good for borders, wet areas and for cutting. Plant crowns 16–20" apart in light shade in moist soil. Thrives in full sun if given adequate moisture or mulched with leaf mold; tolerates most conditions. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***L692A**: 1 for $4.25*
***L692B**: 3 for $11.50*
***L692C**: 6 for $18.00*

***Myrrhis odorata* Sweet Cicely** Highly aromatic medicinal herb, delicious for summer teas and garden nibbling. White flower umbels bloom in early summer turning into edible sweet green anise-flavored seeds that mature in fall into long shiny ridged dark brown seedpods. Valued for its antiseptic properties, improves digestion and fights flatulence by dispelling excess gas in the intestinal tract. Cook the young root or grate it raw to use as a vegetable. Use the young leaves and stems in soups and salad. Leaves and seeds were traditionally used by woodworkers to make an aromatic polish for oak furniture and paneling. A useful orchard companion: sweet cicely provides food and shelter for beneficial insects such as lacewings and parasitoid wasps. Blossoms provide nectar for the adult syrphid fly whose larvae consume up to 40 aphids per day. Self-sows readily, but seed must be sown fresh in the fall; by spring it is no longer viable. Vigorous multiplier. Plant in the wilder part of the border or along the woodsline. Prefers full sun but grows well in dappled shade underneath tree canopies. 2–6' tall. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***L693A**: 1 for $5.25*
***L693B**: 2 for $9.00*
***L693C**: 3 for $12.00*

***Scutellaria baicalensis* Baikal Skullcap** The root is called *huang qin* in China. Baikal skullcap reduces inflammation and strengthens the ability to fight allergic conditions such as asthma, hay fever and eczema. In traditional Chinese medicine, prescribed to knock out coughs with thick yellow phlegm and is most commonly used to battle gastrointestinal infections. Develops a shrub-like crawling habit with green lance-shaped leaves and vibrant indigo-blue blossoms. The root attains harvestable size in 3 to 4 years. Plant in partial shade, 1–2' apart, in light well-drained soil. Grows 1–4' tall. Sustainably grown by Lauren Cormier. Z4. **ME Grown.**

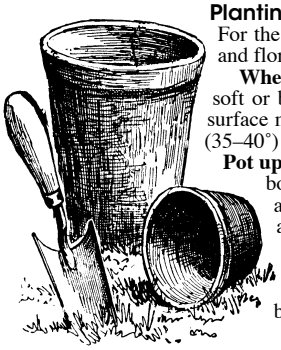
***L694A**: 1 for $7.00*
***L694B**: 2 for $12.50*
***L694C**: 3 for $16.50*

***Symphytum officinale* Comfrey** or **Knitbone** Well-known for its skin-soothing properties. Contains allantoin, promotes healing of skin and bone; also demulcent for lung and throat. Clusters of bell-like pinkish purple flowers dangle above the deep green bristled foliage. Highly recommended as an orchard companion. Easy-to-grow vigorous plant demands space and *can be very invasive*; be careful where you plant it and control with regular harvest. Space 16–24" apart in well-drained soil, sun or shade. 24–48" tall. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***L695A**: 1 for $5.25*
***L695B**: 3 for $14.50*
***L695C**: 6 for $24.00*

***Valeriana officinalis* Valerian** A strong and upright plant with small white or rosy flowers in flat clusters above glossy pinnate leaves. Well-known anti-spasmodic, nervine and sedative is often used for sleeplessness, anxiety and other nervous complaints. Divide or harvest thick rootstock every 4 to 5 years. Plant 12–15" apart in moist well-drained soil in full sun. 2–4' tall. Our stock is MOFGA-certified organic, grown at Blessed Maine Herb Farm in Athens, ME. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***L696A**: 1 for $5.75*
***L696B**: 2 for $10.00*
***L696C**: 3 for $13.50*



Planting Instructions for Bare-Root Perennial Plants

For the first growing season, let new perennials focus on root growth. Once established, usually in the second year, they are vigorous and floriferous.

When you receive your order, open the bags and check the stock immediately. Roots and crowns should be firm and pliable, not soft or brittle. If they are slightly dry, add a little water or, if they are going to be potted up soon, soak the roots. Generally, a little surface mold is harmless and will not affect the plant's future performance. If you cannot pot them up immediately, store them in a cool (35–40˚) location for a short time.

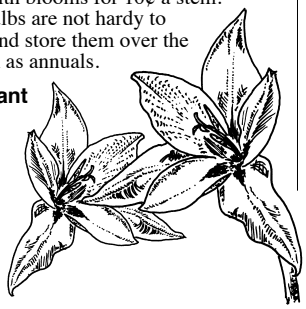
Pot up the rootstock in well-drained potting mix. Most plants need a deep 6" pot or a 1-gallon container. Avoid coiling the roots in the bottom of under-sized containers. Grow newly potted perennials for a few weeks in a protected location in indirect light at 50–60˚ and keep from freezing. Wet and/or cold conditions for an extended period may cause rotting. Begin feeding when new growth appears. Keep dry fertilizers away from plant crowns. Use animal manures with caution as they can promote fungal and bacterial diseases.

Transplant outside once they show some top growth and the danger of frost has passed. Dig a hole about twice the size of the pot, loosening the surrounding soil and adding compost or fertilizers as necessary. Generally, plant the top of the crown just below ground level, less than an inch from the surface of the soil.

All perennials appreciate a fall mulch and a sidedressing of compost or leaf mold in the spring.

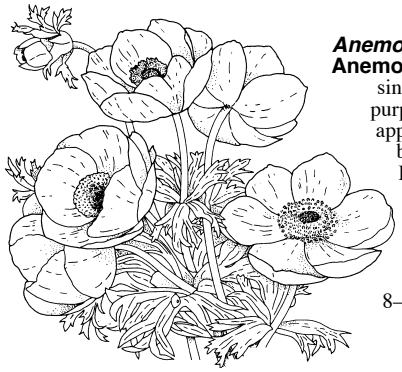
Tender Summer Bulbs

Spring-planted bulbs offer wonderful variety to the cutflower market and are a staple in old-fashioned gardens. Once upon a time, back roads beckoned my mother to spend many a summer Sunday in search of the best deal on roadside dahlias, glads and lilies. Every few miles she would find buckets brimming with blooms for 10¢ a stem. Nowadays it's more like $1. Spring-planted bulbs are not hardy to northern climes. Smart and thrifty people lift and store them over the winter (details below); the rest of us treat them as annuals.



***Acidanthera callianthus murielae* Fragrant Gladiolus** Sword-like foliage is topped by wonderfully scented star-shaped 2" white flowers with mahogany-purple centers on arching stems. Beautiful in the garden or as a cutflower. 24" tall. Culture like gladiolus.

***L701A**: 10 for $3.50*
***L701B**: 20 for $5.50*
***L701C**: 50 for $12.00*



***Anemone coronaria* De Caen Mix Anemone** or **Windflower** Charming single flowers 1–3" wide are dark purple-blue, red, rose or white and appear in early summer. Good for borders, containers and cutting. Keep moist during the growing season. Soak the knobby tubers in water 24 hours before early spring planting. Plant in full sun, 1–2" deep, 4–8" apart in light sandy soil. 8–10" tall.

***L702A**: 10 for $4.25*
***L702B**: 20 for $7.25*
***L702C**: 50 for $15.50*

***Begonia* x *tuberhybrida* Tuberous Begonia** If you live in the woods with limited sunlight and are longing for colorful flowers, tuberous begonias offer lush textures, intense colors and a tropical aura that make this tender plant well worth cultivating. Velvety flowers bloom all summer, drooping languidly amidst red-tinted foliage. Excellent bedding or container plants. For outdoor plantings, once the danger of frost has passed, plant in rich *moist but not soggy well-drained soil*. Place the knobby concave side facing upwards, rounded side down, 2" deep, 8–12" apart. For window boxes, plant 3–5" apart. Best in a cool spot with indirect sunlight and good air circulation. I drench mine with water every other day, feed them weekly and stand back to ooh and ah! All are camellia multiflora types. 2½" tubers.

Orange Double flowers. 12" tall.

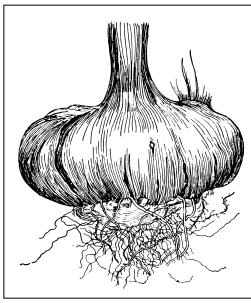
***L703A**: 2 for $7.00*
***L703B**: 4 for $12.50*
***L703C**: 6 for $17.00*

Dark Red Double flowers. 12" tall.

***L704A**: 2 for $7.00*
***L704B**: 4 for $12.50*
***L704C**: 6 for $17.00*

Yellow and Red Picotee Double flowers are like a yellow-orange blazing sunset with fine red margins. 4–9" tall.

***L705A**: 2 for $7.00*
***L705B**: 4 for $12.50*
***L705C**: 6 for $17.00*



Overwintering Summer Bulbs

Spring-planted summer-blooming bulbs, corms and tubers will not survive northern winters outdoors. To save them for next year, dig them up in the fall after the foliage dies, gently brush off any soil and debris, and dry them. Store somewhere dark and cool (40–50°) in dry peat or sawdust, then replant in spring. You can also grow them in pots and relocate as the weather dictates. Alternatively, treat them as annuals and compost them at the end of the season.

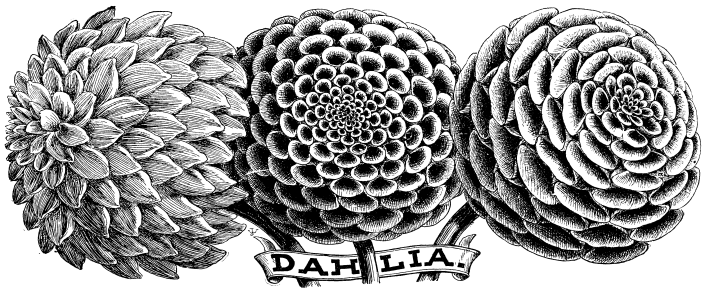
Crocosmia* x *crocosmiiflora glows in the garden! Midsummer sprays of brightly colored flowers open from bottom to top on long arching flower stalks, like bursts of flame above gladiolus-like foliage. Grows well in pots. Makes a long-lasting cutflower. Plant in full sun, 3" deep, 3" apart in moist well-drained soil. Grows 24–36" tall.

'Emily McKenzie' Exotic bi-color featuring fiery shades of orange and red.

***L706A**: 10 for $6.50*
***L706B**: 20 for $11.25*
***L706C**: 50 for $25.50*

'Lucifer' means 'light-bearing' in Latin. The hardiest crocosmia with brilliant red blossoms on arching bronze stems.

***L707A**: 10 for $4.00*
***L707B**: 20 for $7.50*
***L707C**: 50 for $15.00*



Dahlia Plant 3–4" deep, 12–24" apart. Set the tubers flat with eyes facing upward. Grows best with 3–4 hours of direct sun per day, but will tolerate conditions from full sun to light shade. Dahlias often need staking, but close plantings can support each other. Blooms are susceptible to insect damage, especially in the bud stage so watch out for slugs, tarnish bugs, leafhoppers and thrips. Plan a control program ahead of time. Conventional wisdom says to plant after danger of frost is past, but our former longtime grower in Massachusetts planted his tubers the same time as his peas!

Dahlia provides endless displays of gorgeous blossoms in a vast array of sizes, shapes and colors, steadily blooming from midsummer till frost—adding incredible late-season value to the cutting garden. Native to hot parts of the Americas and first developed as a food crop, ornamental dahlias are descended from years of breeding and hybridizing *D. pinnata* and *D. juarezi*.

***D.* 'Moonlight Sonata'** Elegant soft apricot-peach dinnerplate-sized blossoms shaped like shooting stars—spherical, lyrical and lovely. 32–36" tall.

***L708A**: 1 for $4.25*
***L708B**: 3 for $10.75*
***L708C**: 6 for $20.00*

***D.* Sultry Summer Sunset Mix** Colors range from amber to coral, rose to ruby, to a warm rich magenta-purple. A grand combination of solids and bicolors, cactus, semi-cactus, decoratives and dinnerplates. 36–44" tall.

***L709A**: 3 for $12.00*
***L709B**: 6 for $21.00*
***L709C**: 12 for $38.00*

***Gladiolus* Sword Lily** Showy summer bloomer excels as a cutflower. Each 36" tall stalk is covered with 10 or more open funnel-shaped flowers that bloom from bottom to top. Named for their sword-like leaves; a *gladiolus* is a small Roman sword. Gladiolus corms (bulbs) are 1 1/2" and up.

***G.* 'Carmello'** Rich golden-yellow orange, very bright and showy.
***L710A**: 10 for $4.50*
***L710B**: 20 for $8.00*
***L710C**: 50 for $18.00*

***G.* 'Coral Lace'** Bright coral frilled petals with creamy white throats make this variety a real knockout!
***L711A**: 10 for $4.50*
***L711B**: 20 for $8.00*
***L711C**: 50 for $18.00*

***G.* 'Fiorentina White'** White with a narrow red center stripe.
***L712A**: 10 for $4.50*
***L712B**: 20 for $8.00*
***L712C**: 50 for $18.00*

***G.* 'Green Star'** Out-of-this-world luminous lime green!
***L713A**: 10 for $4.50*
***L713B**: 20 for $8.00*
***L713C**: 50 for $18.00*

***G.* 'Nori'** Violet-blue with a prominent cream-colored throat. A customer favorite—not included in the Blue Moon Mix (above right).
***L714A**: 10 for $4.50*
***L714B**: 20 for $8.00*
***L714C**: 50 for $18.00*

***G.* 'Plum Tart'** A dark purplish wine, very classy.
***L715A**: 10 for $4.50*
***L715B**: 20 for $8.00*
***L715C**: 50 for $18.00*

***G.* 'Raven'** Dark red with a suggestion of black.
***L716A**: 10 for $4.50*
***L716B**: 20 for $8.00*
***L716C**: 50 for $18.00*

***G.* 'Victor Borge'** Ravishing red.
***L717A**: 10 for $4.50*
***L717B**: 20 for $8.00*
***L717C**: 50 for $18.00*

Gladiolus Mixes

***G.* 'Blue Moon Mix'** Brilliant blue-violet color combinations for your cut-flower fantasies.
***L718A**: 10 for $4.25*
***L718B**: 20 for $7.75*
***L718C**: 50 for $17.00*

***G.* Large-Flowering Glad Mix**
***L719A**: 10 for $4.25*
***L719B**: 20 for $7.75*
***L719C**: 50 for $17.00*

Gladiolus Plant corms 4–6" deep and 6" apart after the last spring frost. Each stalk blooms for about a week, roughly 8 weeks after planting.

Stagger plantings for flowers from summer to frost. Hilling or staking may be needed if their sword-shaped foliage and 3–4' flower spikes get top heavy.

Cut when 2–3 flowers have opened, taking care to spare the leaves which feed the developing corm.

Dig up the corms after the tops have died, discard the old one, clean the new one, dry, and store loose (no peat) in a cool dry place.

Thrips are a problem for glads. Infestations are indicated by yellowing and spotted foliage. Be prepared lest they harm your plants and prevent flowering. Consider a control program —possibilities include insecticidal soap, garlic, pyrethrum or rotenone—to use at the first sign of infestation.

***Ranunculus* Hybrids Mix** Orange, white, yellow, pink or red flowers resemble giant double buttercups and bloom from late spring into summer. Good for borders, pots and cutting. Fern-like foliage. When Ranunculus appears at the florist in late winter, I go nuts and completely forget my budget! 12" tall.
***L720A**: 6 for $4.00*
***L720B**: 12 for $6.75*
***L720C**: 24 for $12.00*

How to Grow Ranunculus

Ranunculus tubers require 4 to 6 weeks of cool nights at 40–50° with daytime temps between 60–75° in order to sprout. If it's too warm they will stay dormant.

Before planting, soak tubers in water for several hours to several days. Plant in full sun, in moist well-drained soil. Set 2–4" deep, 6" apart, claw side down. May take 4–6 weeks to sprout.

Zones 4–7 plant in spring.
Zones 8–11 plant in fall.
Perennial in Zones 8–11.

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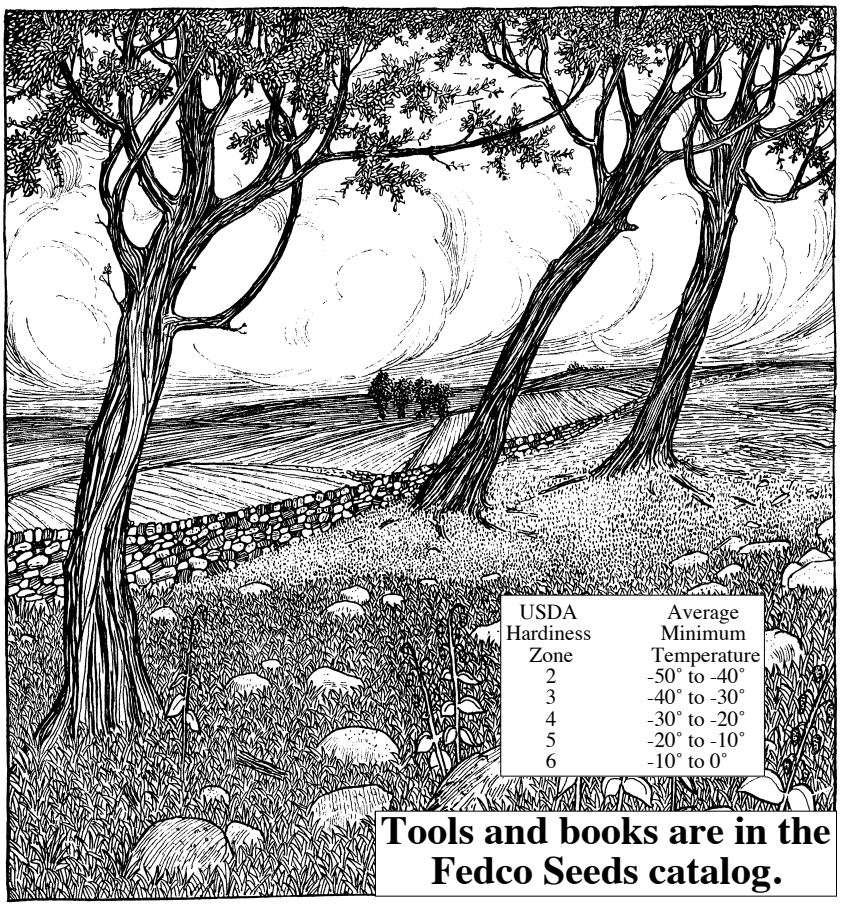

USDA Hardiness Zone	Average Minimum Temperature
2	-50° to -40°
3	-40° to -30°
4	-30° to -20°
5	-20° to -10°
6	-10° to 0°

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